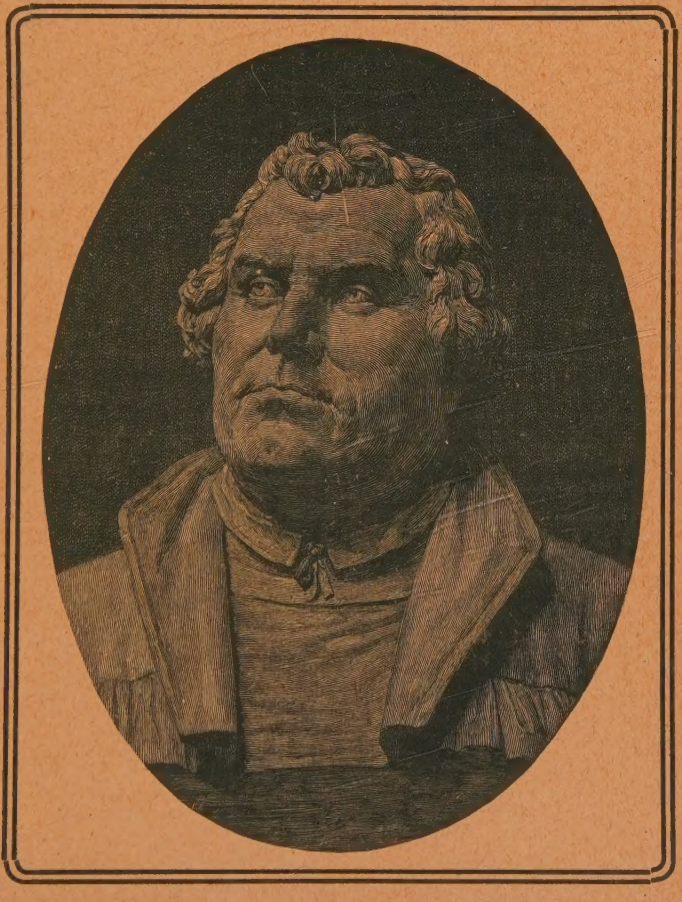
Vol. XVI. NOVEMBER, 1903 No. 11

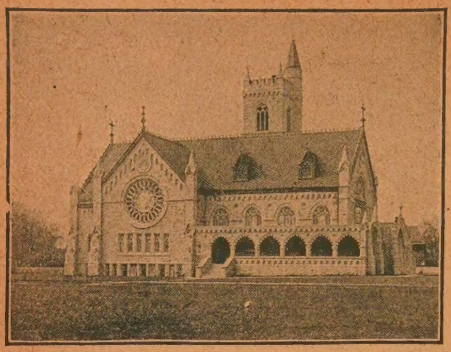
Of the Church—By the Church—For the Church

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE OF AMERICA



Next Convention of the Luther League of America in Buffalo, 1904



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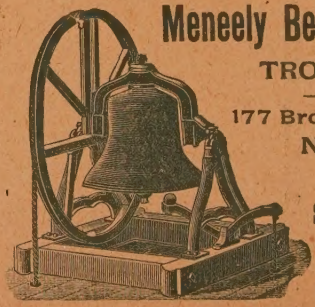

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Of the Church—By the Church—For the Church

Luther League Review

La Inglesia Evangelica Luterana del Divine Salvador

Catano, Porto Rico

THERE is something sad about the passing of a nation, but it is more sad when they pass under the dominion of superstition and ignorance than when in their passing it means enlightenment, civilization and evangelization. More than four centuries ago Columbus discovered Porto Rico. With the passing of the aboriginal Porto Rican, the Spaniard increased his power until he came into full control. Lying as it does but a few days' journey from our shores, it is an acquisition from a political point of view Americans can afford to appreciate and develop. With but two seasons, the wet and the dry, and a temperature seldom varying more than 10 degrees, from 70 to 80, for the Caucasian it is a safer habitation than any of the tropical islands. American enterprise will eventually make it an ideal winter resort, and the progressive American ideas furthered by the Commissioner of Education will modernize this island.

A writer says of the island, referring to its religious life, "It has been asserted that Porto Rico is not heathen in the sense that India is heathen." No, thank God! But, while the Porto Rican is presumably Roman Catholic, a recent traveler in Porto Rico declares, "his religion a thing almost forgotten." It has been said in objection to mission work in Porto Rico that our missionaries go there only to proselyte Roman Catholics. The very same accusation was brought against Luther and his followers during the troubled days of the Reformation period. It would seem, that in view of the indifference with which Protestantism regards the aggressiveness of Roman Catholicism to-day, it is "high time" for the missionary to proselyte Roman Catho-

lics as well as Hindus, Buddhists, Brahmins and Mohammedans.

Several years ago the General Council of our Church, under Divine guidance, authorized the sending out of two missionaries, Two Christian ministers, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, offered themselves for the work. Therefore the duty of the Lutheran Church with regard to Porto Rico was clearly evident. Christ sent out the disciples two by two into the heathen world, establishing a precedent which the Church has found it wise to follow. Lack of funds made it necessary for one of our missionaries to return home; the other remained in the field with his hands more than full. At a disadvantage, because not familiar with the Spanish language he had much to contend with. Determined not to allow this to be a source of failure, he engaged the services of others when possible, but in the building up of our Church here there are many unwritten chapters in the history of their personal experiences and sacrifices.

In writing of Porto Rico as a mission field, Rev. Herbert F. Richards, the missionary, has directed attention to some of the difficulties. Among the obstacles in our work was first the opposition of the Catholics. Within the last several years they have been recuperating and strengthening themselves in order to more effectively hinder the Protestants. They are preaching against the Bible as an excommunicated Book, and they have women to go around and visit those who come to the Protestant meetings and try to win them back, and even social persecution is resorted to in order to effect this end.

Another great obstacle is spiritualism. This existed under the Spanish domination, but it was more or less secret, without open meetings, but nourished by an abundant supply of literature from Spain, France and even the United States. Their religion seems to consist in external morality, while they are skeptical on nearly all the cardinal scriptural doctrines.

Among those uninfluenced by Romanism or spiritualism, the chief difficulty is indifference. They have been so long neglected by the priests, or seen such bad examples from these as to have caused them to lose faith in the power of Christianity, and to think there is nothing in it but ceremonies. If you ask them to send their children to Sunday school they promise this, but when Sunday comes the children have not clean clothes or they have headache or some other trivial reason as their excuse for absence.

Besides these difficulties encountered by every Protestant missionary, the Lutheran Church has had some which are peculiarly her own. But there is no reason why the Lutheran Church should not pursue an active part in the great work which is before the American nation.

Property was purchased in Catano, and August 16 was a red-letter day in the history of the Lutheran mission in Porto Rico. It was the occasion of the dedication of the first Lutheran Church in the island. This Church had been erected during the preceding winter by the Rev. C. H. Hemsath of Washington, Pa. The delicatory service began at ten o'clock. Rev. Richards preached the sermon, taking his text from the One Hundred and Twenty-second Psalm. One hundred and twenty-five persons were seated and many stood inside and outside the church. A children's choir sang beautifully. In the evening Rev. Dr. Drees, superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached a most excellent sermon.

The dimensions of the church are 43 x 26 feet, and is built of native brick covered with mortar, according to the invariable custom prevailing in the island. It is the first brick building in the town, and one of the neatest and finest to be found anywhere in the island. It contains two stained glass windows, a circular one in front and a large one immediately back of the altar, the first windows of their kind in the island. The chancel furniture was given by the Danville Conference of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, and is the finest in the island without any doubt. The church is tastily and well built. The people here are the roughest on the island. Many are boatmen plying between Catano and San Juan. One-half cannot read or write, nor do they wish to learn, but I hope they will soon learn to wish to know both. The upper classes are either hardened Catholics or spiritualists. It is, therefore, quite a pleasure to see such modern things where everything is so decrepit and ancient. The church occupies a central site on the principal street, and behind it is the beach, with the breezes from the bay serving to mitigate the tropical heat, as the building is well supplied with windows.

The dedication services were conducted by the pastor, and continued for more than a week, and although a priest was sent there after the church was built for the purpose of hindering our work, and although he preached against us, and American nuns were sent there to warn the people not to come near, the services were always well attended, and on three different occasions the church was crowded and the people filled up the windows and doors.

Among those present in the evening on the

(*Continued on page* 16.)

Luther League of New York

Tenth Convention, New York City, Oct. 21-23

By John W. Smith

WHAT will probably be remembered as one of the most successful conventions of the Luther League of New York State has just come to a close.

Beneath clear skies, with delightful autumn weather, and amid the hearty welcome of the Reception Committee, the Luther League of New York State held its tenth convention in St. James' Lutheran Church, New York City. Many remembered that it was just five years ago that the sixth convention was held in the same church. The opening session was held on Wednesday evening, October 21. A large number of delegates and enough visitors were present to comfortably fill the beautiful edifice of St. James'. The opening service was conducted by Dr. Remensnyder. After the reading of the Scritpures by Rev. J. W. Smith, and the singing of the hymn, "A Charge to Keep I Have," the pastor of the church welcomed the delegates in the following words: "New York has recently been subjected to two invasions. The one comes with special trains and in great numbers and, it is needless to say, with a good deal of commotion. The other comes quietly; no special trains or hurrahs mark its arrival, and yet we believe this second invasion will receive the most cordial welcome, not only from our Lutheran people but from the people outside of our own church.

"We bid you welcome because of the love we feel in our hearts for the work and the workers, and trust your stay among us may be pleasant and profitable."

President I. S. Runyon of the City League extended the welcome on behalf of that League.

The responses were given by Mr. George D. Boschen, president of the State League, and Mr. Jas. M. Reynolds of Valatie, one of the vice-presidents.

The admirable singing by the choir was one of the features of the evening service.

Immediately following the service a reception and social hour was given to the dele-

A GROUP OF DELEGATES GATHERED IN FRONT OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH

gates and friends in the Sunday-School rooms. Here the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee made every one feel at home, and gave all an opportunity to greet old friends and make new acquaintances. Light refreshments were served and a very enjoyable hour was spent by all.

Second Session

Bright and early on Thursday, the 22d, the delegates began to assemble for the first business session. The devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. L. Sebole of Buffalo.

The reports of officers being next in order, the president read his annual report. He urged the necessity for direct personal work and the training up of young men and young

women to take the places of those who retire from active League work.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of $109.98.

The statistical secretary regretted his inability to present a complete report because of the remissness of many Leagues to send in their reports.

The Executive Committee, to whom was referred the question of redistricting of the State, submitted an outline map, which makes the districts as follows:

Brooklyn District—Long Island.

New York District—Boroughs of Manhattan and Richmond and Counties of Westchester and Rockland.

Rhinebeck District—Counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Ulster, Sullivan, Orange and Putnam.

D. and H. District—Counties of Schoharie, Otsego, Chenango, Delaware, Broome, Tioga and Chemung.

Albany District—Counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Montgomery, Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Hamilton, Clinton, Essex, Warren, Fulton, Saratoga, Washington and Schenectady.

Syracuse District—Counties of Oneida, Madison, Cortland, Tompkins, Cayuga, Oswego, Jefferson and Onondaga.

Rochester District—Counties of Allegany, Steuben, Schuyler, Yates, Seneca, Wayne, Monroe, Livingston and Ontario.

Buffalo District—Counties of Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Wyoming.

The Credential Committee reported that 75 delegates, 24 alternates and 2 visitors had registered.

The Literature Committee reported that a leaflet had been published under the title "Five Good Books and What They Contain," whose object was to acquaint people with the contents of the books of the First Reading Course, and thus aid to increase their circulation. The committee also urged upon the various Leagues the necessity of supporting the REVIEW by increasing the subscription list.

After the singing of a hymn, Rev. John J. Dominic of Gloversville spoke on the general topic, "Economy of Effort," his subject being "Waste of Words." He said:

I reside in a manufacturing town where there are a great many whistles, telling us every morning that it is seven o'clock. These whistles are all of different sounds. One has a very shrill tone, another is asthmatic, while still another shrieks forth with a most disagreeable noise. As we listen we can hear some speaking right out plain, leading us to infer that the steam behind them is not wasted. God has given us powers; these powers not to be wasted but to be used for certain ends. God has placed us just where He would have us, and it is of the greatest importance that we see that we are using these God-given powers.

Observe the training of the athlete. How he subjects himself to discipline. He does not train one set of muscles at the expense of others, but he develops all the muscles. As Luther Leaguers we must train our several faculties.

Words that do not express some instruction; words that do not convey some thought; words that do not bear to another some comfort are wasted, and as Luther Leaguers we must be careful in our employment of words.

There is often a great waste of words over trifling matters. Small matters are exalted and allowed to interfere with the more important work. It will hardly do to quibble over small things and thus hinder the great work of the League.

Then there is the matter of grievance. Here is one who has a grievance, and he wishes to state it. Many persons will nurse a grievance and peddle it around, and thus not only hinder themselves but everyone else. What a waste of words there is here! If you have a grievance can you not rise above it?

There must be a gathering together, a unity of effort and a pushing forward toward one end and aim.

The next speaker, the Rev. Charles W. Leitzell, spoke upon "Waste of Organization."

Every age has some distinguishing characteristic. This age is an age of organization. With such an organization and such an array of forces as we have to-day we ought to do greater work than we have done in the past. If every hand and every foot could be brought into use how much work could be done for Christ! There is too much of looseness. Thoroughness in organizaton is the great need in our societies. How much waste there is when the wrong men are placed in positions of prominence.

There is likewise a danger of overdoing. Nothing is left for the individual when everything is left to the society or committee. It is the individual, after all, that we must use and train for service.

We look too much to our organizations to do our work instead of looking above them to God. Unless the spirit of God is working through the machinery of our organization great things cannot be accomplished. There never has been a more opportune time for service for the Master than the present.

Dr. George H. Gomph of Pittsford, who was to have spoken on "Waste of Administration," was unavoidably absent, and the whole topic was now opened for discussion. Many practical points were brought forward by the various persons who took part in the discussion.

Upon the conclusion of this part of the programme the reports of the various District Leagues were called for. The following responded:

Mr. A. A. Coney, for the Albany District.

Mr. Wm. J. Dilthey, for the Brooklyn District.

Rev. J. L. Sibole, for the Buffalo District.

Mr. I. S. Runyon, for the New York District.

Mr. Jas. M. Reynolds, for the Rhinebeck District.

Rev. W. E. Murray, for the Rochester District.

Mr. W. L. Bradt, for the D. and H. District.

After the president had announced the various committees the session closed with devotional exercises, conducted by the Rev. Christian Krahmer of Saugerties.

Third Session

The third session opened at 2 o'clock with the hymn "The Lord My Shepherd Is," after which the Rev. F. B. Clausen of New York read a portion of Scripture and the Rev. A. Steimle led in prayer.

This session took the form of a model devotional meeting, led by Mr. Chas. A. Schnepel of Holy Trinity League, New York City. After the object of the meeting had been stated by the leader, the Rev. M. J. Bieber of Binghamton read a paper on the "Model Devotional Meeting." He said, in part:

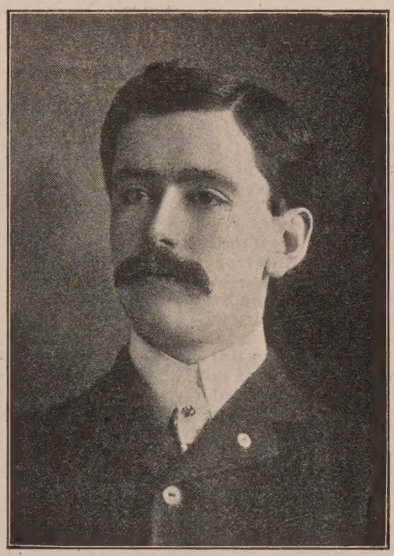
What is the chief aim of the Luther League? Is it financial? Is it educational? Is it missionary? The mission of the Luther League includes all of these activities. But these are simply the fruits of a higher, a broader, a deeper aim. That supreme aim is spirituality. What should be the attitude of the Luther League toward the use of the Bible? Should it be read and studied and discussed in her sessions? If it is not, she might as well disband, for her usefulness will be crippled. The League must seek first the kingdom of the Word and its blessings, then all other things will be added unto her.

How should the devotional meeting be conducted? It should be made intensely interesting. There should not be a dull minute connected with it, and there need not be. The pastor must keep his hand on the throttle. His practical eye and trained hand, his general experience and thorough knowledge of human nature, must give strength and life and direction to the meetings. The meetings should not be too long. They should never exceed one hour. The topic for the meeting must be kept the center and inspiration of the programme. Everything must lead up to it and appropriately follow it. Only those willing and able should be selected to discuss it, and ample time should be given them for preparation.

The Luther League Hymnal should be used, or hymns from our own Church or Sunday-School Book.

The leader then announced that the topic selected for the meeting was the one for the twenty-first week after Trinity of the Luther League Topics, entitled "God's Loving Care." He further stated that he had requested three persons to prepare papers bearing on the topic. The first was entitled "God's Care of Flowers, Birds and Animals," and read by Mr. William Gaskell. The second, entitled "God's Providence for Christian Men," was presented by Mr. I. S. Runyon; and the last paper, "Why We Should Trust Him," was read by Mr. James M. Reynolds. At the conclusion of each paper the leader gave a short summary of the portion of the topic covered by the paper.

These papers were excellent and presented the topic in its various aspects. They showed thorough preparation and acquaintance with the subject and were highly commended. In his closing remarks Rev. C. Armand Miller said: "The one thing that we need to save us from the little worries and cares of our



JAS. M. REYNOLDS, PRESIDENT

lives is the personal, loving care of our Father. Hold fast to the faithfulness of God. The simple soul that clings to the text 'Faithful Is He That Promised,' has learned the secret of peace."

The topic was now opened for discussion, and the manner in which many availed themselves of the privilege to speak showed how deeply all were interested in the subject. A number of questions were asked in relation to the manner of conducting devotional meetings, and many helpful suggestions were brought out. Such a meeting as this one connot but bear much fruit, and the Executive Committee is to be commended for giving it place on the programme. It afforded the delegates and visitors an excellent opportunity of looking upon a model devotional meeting and listening to the experiences of those who were conducting such meetings with success in their home Leagues.

After the singing of the hymn, "My Times Are in Thy Hand," the meeting adjourned with prayer and benediction by the Rev. James Berg of Mt. Vernon.

Rally Meeting

On Thursday evening a large audience gathered in St. Paul's Church, West 123d street, to attend the Rally Meeting. It was preceded by an organ recital by the organist of St. Paul's Church, Mr. C. H. H. Booth. The various selections were well rendered and much enjoyed.

The meeting opened with the usual order of service, conducted by the Rev. M. J. Bieber. The first address was delivered by the Rev. Frank F. Fry of Rochester, his subject being "Truth." He said:

From its very inception the Luther League has stood for the study and knowledge of the truth. Its members are seekers after truth. Its motto is: Of the Church, by the Church, and for the Church; but it is the Church as the pillar and ground of the truth. This is the overshadowing purpose it has in view, the pledge and guarantee of its success. For truth, like love, is eternal. We live in an age of doubt, of inquiry and speculation—an age whose coat of arms is an interrogation point, and whose motto is query. Breathing this atmosphere, surrounded by these conditions, a race of men has sprung up around us who question the foundations of our holy religion and endeavor to weaken faith in the essential doctrines of the Creed. They would require of us that we sweep away the whole mass of acquired material and build the whole fabric of our belief afresh. Our mission, therefore, is to bear witness to the truth. Jesus said, I am the truth. Wherever there is an honest yearning in a human heart for God's truth it is bound to come to Christ, and then tell the truth to others. This organization is called a League, and rightly so. But the word League suggests a bond of union. The only bond of union which can essentially and indissolubly unite us is the bond of truth. The Luther League stands firmly upon the Word of God, as confessed in the unaltered Augustana, and we have it on the highest authority that God's Word is truth. God grant that this League may long continue to witness to the truth of Christ and to prepare men and women by close and constant study to testify of it.

At the conclusion of the address Miss Fannie M. Baust sang "The Lord Is My Light."

The next speaker, the Rev. G. Albert Getty, spoke on "Trust." He said, in part:

The Christian's life must be a life trust. A serene confidence in God must mark the first, as it does every succeeding, step in the progress of a human soul from the thraldom of sin to the glorious home of the Redeemer. Young people who are called upon to engage in the activities of the Church are apt to consider only their own intellectual and spiritual qualifications, and a feeling of their own insufficiency leads them oftimes to decline the call. How few, comparatively, take up the duties of the Christian life, "trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength." Yet the Scriptures assure us that this is what we all ought to do.

Luther Leaguers, trust in God, and beneath the black, red, white, blue and gold we shall move forward with the mighty hosts of the Church Militant and share in the glory of the victorious King of Kings.

The congregation sang the Luther League Rally Hymn, and then the General Secretary, Rev. L. M. Kuhns, was introduced and spoke on "Tact." He said:

Tact is common sense in action. So far as concerns the Luther League it embraces nice perception and discernment in means, methods and men. A ready power of appreciating and doing what is required by circumstances is worth more than talent whose theoretical knowledge cannot cope with stern realities. It requires tact in encouraging the formation of young people's societies and in stimulating greater Christian activity.

To carry the objects of our Luther League work to successful issue requires tact in promoting the intellectual advancement, Christian nurture in guarding from dangerous and vicious influences, and in cultivating the spirit of loyalty to the Church by the study of her history, doctrine and usage, those consecrated at her altar. It is the spirit of our methods to develop increasing fields of activity—a fruitage of labors more abundant along purely Scriptural lines. If we would make our life work count for Christ we must keep in touch with this great, bustling world. We cannot afford to be day dreamers, reaching after the impossible and seeking to grasp the stars, forgetting our feet are on earth, like the old Grecian athlete. Laying aside every weight and looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, we can press on and upward to the high prize of our calling in God.

After an anthem by the choir, the president of the Luther League of America, Wm. C. Stoever, Esq., of Philadelphia, spoke a few words, conveying the greeting of the National League. He urged upon every one to do his or her duty, and emphasized the three E's—Energy, Enthusiasm and Earnestness. In the course of his remarks he read a letter from the Pennsylvania State League, bearing the greeting from that League.

The singing of Luther's Hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," and the closing part of the vesper service with the benediction brought the meeting to a close. The singing by the choir under the direction of the organist was a pleasing feature of the exercises. At the conclusion of the service a reception was tendered the delegates and friends at the Highland Hotel, where the visiting delegates were entertained.

Fifth Session

The fifth and final session of the convention was held on Friday morning at 9 o'clock. After the devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. Oscar Krauch, the Nominating Committee presented its report, and the following, whose names were offered, were elected: Pres., Mr. James M. Reynolds, of Valatie; rec. sec., Mr. William J. Steinhauser, of Rochester; cor. sec., Mr. Eugene A. Hieber, of Utica; stat. sec., Mr. Henry D. Brandes, of New York; treas., Rev. M. J. Bieber, of Binghamton; trustees, Mr. C. G. Grauer, Mr. Jacob H. Smith and Mr. Fred. L. Rath.

(*Continued on page* 16.)

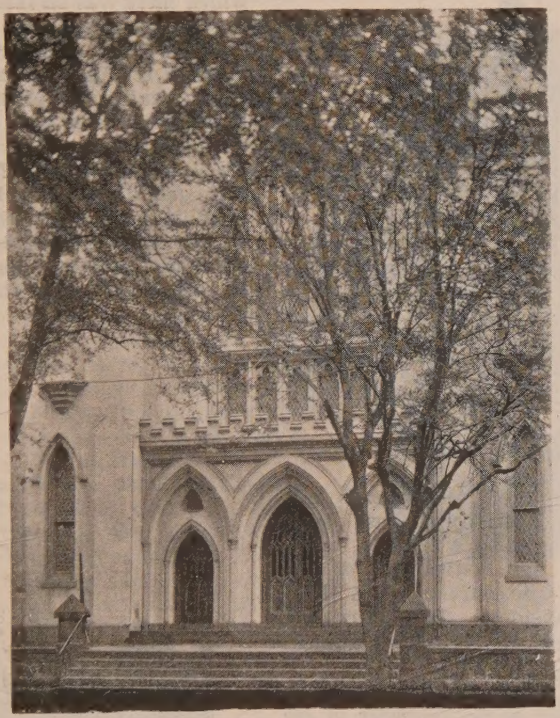
Luther League of Pennsylvania

Tenth Annual Convention, Reading, October 20 and 21

By Anna M. Landis

THE tenth annual convention of the Luther League of Pennsylvania has passed into history. Almost 300 loyal Leaguers and clergymen from various parts of the Keystone State will voice the sentiment that the convention which met in the beautiful city of Reading, October 20 and 21, was the largest and most enthusiastic yet held.

The day sessions were held in St. James' Church, Rev. M. C. Horine, pastor. The decorations within the chancel of the church were beautiful. Above the altar, and on each side, were garlands of smilax and ferns. Potted plants and cut flowers also adorned the pulpit. In front of the altar was the motto: "Of the Church, by the Church, and for the Church," underneath which were the League colors.



ST. JAMES' CHURCH, READING
(Where Business Sessions were held)

Tuesday Morning

The first morning session began at 10.30 o'clock. After the organization of the convention and the transaction of preliminary business, Rev. Horine, D.D., preached an impressive sermon from Ephesians 4:1. Rev. Charles Fry of Philadelphia then announced to the convention that Rev. Frank E. Jensen of St. Paul, Minn., who was to have attended, was taken ill while en route. Rev. Jensen sent his greetings, and through Rev. Fry gave a very encouraging report of the great work which the Luther Leaguers of the Northwest are accomplishing. The session adjourned with a hymn.

Tuesday Afternoon

The business session consisted of reports of officers and standing committees. Rev. C. L. Fry of Philadelphia, representing the Literature Committee, reported as follows: "That a Luther League degree be established and a diploma awarded those who read and study the Reading Course and pass a creditable examination by a Board of Critics; said diplomas to be presented at the grand rally to be held in connection with the final session of the National convention." He further recommended the due appreciation on the part of Leaguers for the work which the Review is doing.

Rev. Luther M. Kuhns of Omaha, Neb., General Secretary of the Luther League of America, addressed the convention.

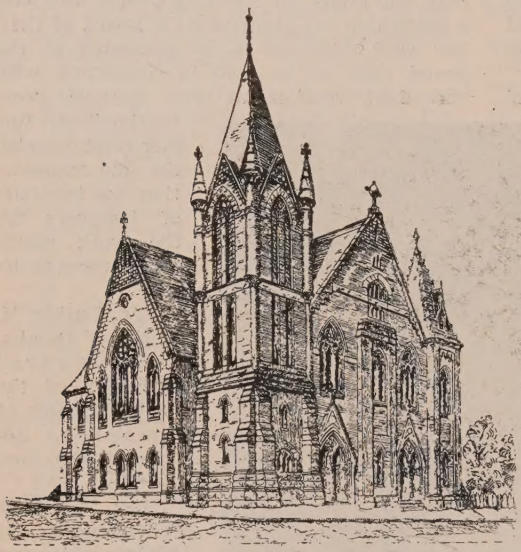
Miss Gertrude Scheidemann of Philadelphia sang a soprano solo, after which Rev. Robert S. Patterson of Somerset spoke very forcibly on "Our Duty to the Individual Church," saying, in part:

> If this convention shall become the means of implanting in us something of our sense of duty, it will have served its purpose well. Duty once awakened is a wonder-working power. Paul, an example. The Leaguer's first duty is to his individual Church. If a man love not the home church, which he hath seen, how can he love the mission church, which he hath not seen? The Luther Leaguer must not simply be a talker and singer, but a walker and bringer, and, finally, our duty to the individual Church is our faithfulness to our confirmation vows.

Tuesday Evening

A large and truly appreciative audience assembled in Grace Lutheran Church to listen to the sincere words of welcome from Hon. G. A. Endlich, Judge of the Berks County Court. William Caspar Stoever, Esq., of

Philadelphia, president of the National League, in his usual pleasing and eloquent manner, responded to the address of welcome. Mr. Stoever spoke very feelingly of the noble service which the president of the State League has rendered, and said, in return for his self-sacrificing efforts, our sincere appreciation is due him. He also spoke of the kind hospitality of the Lutheran brethren of Berks County in times past, saying that



GRACE CHURCH, READING

friendships then formed had become lasting. The missionary activity of these people was likewise commended.

"Our Duty to the Institutions of the Church" was the theme of Frank A. Hartranft, Esq., of Philadelphia. His address was the result of serious and practical thought. He said, in part:

The strength of a Church and the influence it can exert lies largely in the character of the institutions it fosters and promotes. The Lutheran is an educational Church; also notable for charity and benevolence. Patience in well doing is our Church's standard.

Mr. Hartranft also pointed out the awful neglect of parents to teach children the Scriptures until their minds are so filled with secular knowledge that little room remains. Place God first, the knowledge of the world second.

Rev. Luther Kuhns then addressed the audience on the subject of "Our Duty to the Luther League."

It was an earnest, eloquent and forceful presentation of a timely topic, which held the closest attention of his hearers.

The Luther League of America, of which the Luther League of Pennsylvania is a part, has before it, he said, a definite aim and purpose if they shall educate the people in the Church's history and doctrine. The League is accomplishing something if it calls into being the latent action of the laity. The League demands obedience to the great landmarks in the Church's history. It aims to obtain the larger good for the greater number. Duty stands at the gateway of every enterprise. When rightly understood and used it ceases to be an opportunity and becomes a privilege. This is the highest conception of duty. The great mission of the League is to train the young people for service. To support the pastor, not by salary alone, but by good works. It is the duty of the Luther Leaguer to see to it that he learns to know his Church, that he will love it, to grow in grace and become reconciled with God, the Father.

The service closed in the usual form, after which there was an informal reception in the Sunday school room.

By invitation of President A. Raymond Bard of the Luther League of Pennsylvania the delegates and visiting clergymen to the State convention were received by the officers of the State and National Leagues at Mr. Bard's residence, 27 South Ninth street, from ten to eleven o'clock. The home was prettily decorated with plants and flowers and an orchestra furnished delightful music while the reception was in progress. The receiving party were stationed in the front

TRINITY CHURCH, READING

parlor with the president at the head of the line, and as the guests passed through the room they were presented to and heartily greeted by each of the officers in turn. Light refreshments were served. Mr. Bard later was host at a supper to the receiving party.

Wednesday Morning

Rev. Edwin Heyl Delk of Philadelphia

opened the services at 9.30 o'clock. The first speaker was Miss Anna M. Landis of Penns Station, Pa., whose subject was "Our Church's Duty to Missions."

Life is a mission, and everywhere we must grasp the opportunity to do good. The Church of the Reformation, whose doctrine is founded on the pure Word of God, has brought back the true Christianity of past ages. Concentration of forces is necessary to effective work. Every minister is a missionary, and Luther Leaguers his assistants.

Greetings from the New York State League were extended by E. F. Eilert, Esq. Mr. Eilert also spoke on the duty which Leaguers owe to the REVIEW, and as a means of creating interest and increasing the circulation of so valuable a paper, he put forth the following proposition:

"Every district which will subscribe for 100 or more copies will be supplied at the rate of 25 cents. Thus, if each of ten locals in a district would subscribe for ten copies, the cost would be but half of single subscriptions."

Greetings were sent to the New York League in return for their kindness.

The Muhlenberg Memorial Committee then reported, followed by the Committee on Nominations, recommending the election of the following officers for the ensuing year:

Pres., A. Raymond Bard, Reading; rec. sec., Miss Emma A. King, Allegheny; cor. sec., Miss Ida H. Zinser, Philadelphia; stat. sec., D. W. Shollenberger, Montgomery; treas., F. P. D. Miller, Columbia.

Rev. J. F. Wampole, in behalf of the delegates, presented Mr. Bard with a beautiful gold charm in the form of a maltese cross, with the Luther's League emblem in the center. Mr. Bard, the president-elect, now enters upon his fourth term, and the gift presented was in due appreciation of his successful labor as head of the State organization. He is a resident of Reading, where he is engaged in business.

Wednesday Afternoon

Rev. W. H. Dolbeer conducted devotional services, after which Miss Emma A. King of Allegheny presented the topic, "Our Duty to Our Institutions," in a most pleasing and interesting manner.

She told of the great work of the Lutheran Church and of the duty which our Church owes to its schools, orphanages and homes. The work of the Church and its institutions should be inseparably connected. "Just in so far," she said, "as the life of the institution is clean, wholesome and active, so is the history of the Church interesting and bright." Miss King also spoke of the noble Deaconess' work and the inestimable good they are accomplishing.

Rev. E. L. Reed of West Newton extended an invitation from the First Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, to hold the next convention in that city next fall. The invitation was unanimously accepted.

The session closed with a hymn and benediction, after which the delegates were given a trolley car ride over the beautiful Neversink Mountain.

Wednesday Evening

The closing services of the tenth annual convention were held in old Trinity Lutheran Church. E. Augustus Miller, Esq., of Philadelphia was the speaker. His theme was "Duty to Missions," and the manner in which

A. RAYMOND BARD, PRESIDENT

he spoke showed his faithfulness in the work, and an abundance of lofty ideals. Among other things, he said:

Wherever there is law there is duty imposed upon us, and against this we rebel. But duty can become a thing of beauty and pleasure. There can be no better or surer test of a Church's faith and life than her activity in the great cause of missions.

Here the speaker related the story of the dying church whose mission box was covered with a spider's web. "We cannot escape our responsibility. Pray, work and give, the duty of all Christians. 'Tis a hopeful sign when her young people are inquiring as to their duty."

With the regular closing service ended the most enthusiastic and thoroughly educational convention in the history of the State League, and it is the earnest prayer of all loyal Leaguers that their efforts may be crowned with still greater success.

The Secretary with the State Leagues

By the General Secretary

ON September 1 and 2 it was my privilege to be present at the sixth annual convention of the Luther League of Indiana and Kentucky. This was held in Zion and Fairhaven Lutheran churches, Mulberry, Ind. Rev. W. J. Seiberling is the pastor.

Mulberry is pleasantly located, and the surrounding country is a flourishing agricultural district. Our churches here are splendid structures.

The opening session of the convention was held in Zion's Church. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Messrs. Crook and Peter. The greetings and reports from the individual Leagues were stimulating to the delegates present. The address on "The Place and Work of the Luther League" was very helpful. After this I was privileged to present the work of the National Luther League of America. In the evening the address was by Rev. A. C. Anda, Western Field Secretary of the General Council. He spoke on the subject, "The Luther League of America." It was a very timely address, and called attention to the fact that the organization bore the name "Luther;" that the organization was a League, and that its work was America. A very large audience greeted the speaker, and expressed appreciation of his able address.

At the conclusion of the evening service a reception to the delegates and visitors was held in the lecture room of the church. The exchange of cards on which the names of delegates and visitors were written was a helpful feature in acquainting all with each other. A programme of music and recitations was acceptably rendered, and at its conclusion ice cream and cake were served by the League, entertaining the convention.

The morning service was a model League, the business being postponed until the afternoon session, in order that a mark of respect might be shown an old and faithful friend of the Fairhaven Church, who had died and whose funeral was held in the morning. Almost the entire convention attended the services of this faithful father in Israel.

The final business of the convention and its fourth session was held Wednesday afternoon; the subject, "How to Make Our League Service Profitable," was discussed in three phases, Spiritually, Intellectually and Socially. The address of the afternoon was by Rev. W. J. Finck, Anderson, Ind., on the subject, "What Constitutes Loyalty to My Church." The rally was held at night in Zion's Church, and the address was by the General Secretary of the Luther League of America.

During the session of this convention, the choir was present at the various services and rendered some very choice music.

The ninth annual convention of the Luther League of Illinois was held in Chicago, September 3, 4, 5 and 6. The theme of this convention was "The Lutheran Opportunity in America."

Prior to the meeting of the State League the Chicago Central had been hard at work. The president of this League, Mr. M. C. Olson, together with the State president, Rev. C. O. Solberg, Rev. Chas. P. MacLaughlin, Mr. Chas. Nielsen, Mr. Monroe A. Munson, Mr. C. T. A. Anderson, and their assistants spared no effort to make this the greatest convention in the history of the Luther League of Illinois. That they were successful goes without saying, and the convention of the Luther League of Illinois was equal to a National convention in the early stages of our League history. One of the most notable features of this splendid convention was the music. The choruses, quartettes, duets and solos, were all of a high order of excellence, and it is exceedingly gratifying to find such talent within the Church.

The initial session of the convention was held in the Young Men's Christian Association auditorium. After the usual liturgical services, President Mr. M. C. Olson, president of the Luther League of Chicago, delivered an address of welcome, to which Rev. Carl Christenson of Geneva responded.

A new feature in our Luther League programmes was a sermon, in this instance delivered by Rev. M. W. Hamma, Baltimore, Md. At the conclusion of the evening service a short reception was held in the parlors of the Young Men's Christian Association.

The business sessions of the convention were held in the Young Men's Christian Association lecture hall. The opening devotional service was conducted by Rev. Gottfrid Nelson, who spoke on the subject, "Christ With Us." The usual routine business was dispatched, after which an address on "The Past and Its Lessons," was delivered by Rev. Peter Peterson, which was followed by a paper on "Good Committee Work," by Miss Nellie Swanson. In the afternoon the Luther League Topics formed a basis of discussion. This was participated in by Revs. MacLaughlin, Hoffstein and Hunt.

At night three simultaneous rallies were held; one on the north side at Holy Trinity Church, Rev. G. E. Hoffstein presiding, where the addresses were delivered by Rev. F. L. Sigmund, D.D., and Mr. C. A. Wendell. An-

other meeting was held at west side at St. Paul's Church, Rev. L. Harrisville presiding. Revs. J. N. Brandelle and W. H. Blancke delivered the addresses here. At Bethlehem Church, on the south side, Rev. Alfred Ostrom presided, another meeting was held at which Prof. C. J. Sodergren of Augustana College and Rev. Luther M. Kuhns were the speakers.

Saturday was crowded full of business and interesting subjects for discussion. The devotional service was conducted by Rev. N. G. Peterson of Lisbon, who spoke on "Working With God." Addresses were delivered by Rev. A. C. Anda, on the subject, "The Present and Its Inspiration;" Rev. Prof. L. A. Vigness, Pleasant View Luther League College, on "The Luther League Pledge." The Junior League was the subject for discussion at the afternoon session, participated in by Misses Hasselfeldt and May C. Mellander. A feature of the convention came at this session, in the form of a series of questions conducted by Rev. A. D. Crile of Chicago. Everything was pointed, crisp and short, no time was wasted, and the master of the question box was master of the situation.

One of the most pleasing features of this convention was the banquet, served under the auspices of the Luther League of Chicago at the Pavilion Café, in Humboldt Park. For once in the history of affairs of this sort more came than was expected, and the caterer paid the Luther Leaguers of Illinois the splendid compliment of saying: "It was the finest body of people he had served in his five years' experience." And it is enough to say that the caterer himself was equal to the overflowing numbers that crowded the banqueting hall. Rev. C. O. Solberg was the toastmaster, and short, spicy, after dinner speeches, full of wit and humor were made by Messrs. Theis, Munson, Matson, Anderson, Alderman Anderson, Miss Mellander, and others. Divine services in the Lutheran churches of the city were attended by the delegates and visitors, with visiting clergymen occupying the various pulpits of our Church.

At three o'clock on Sunday afternoon the grand rally was held in the splendid Emmanuel Swedish Church. After the liturgic service, and the anthem, "The Heaven's Are Telling," rendered by the united choirs of the Lutheran Churches of Chicago, Miss Ellyn Swanson sang a solo, when Rev. C. O. Solberg was introduced by the president of the Illinois State League, Rev. Carl Christenson of Geneva, and delivered the introductory address. The convention chorus sang Gounod's "Sanctus," after which the General Secretary, Luther M. Kuhns, delivered an address on "Our Lutheran Opportunity." The offertory solo was sung by Miss Theckla Leafbourg, and with the closing liturgical service this magnificent convention was concluded.

It is interesting to note the enthusiasm of the young Lutherans of this Central West. A great opportunity is there, and with the splendid Christian fellowship, so noticeable in these conventions, the outlook for our Church is glorious with promise.

LUTHER M. KUHNS.

The Luther League and the General Bodies

In his official report, the retiring president of the General Council, Rev. M. C. Ranseen of Chicago, emphasized the value of the Luther League movement as a potent factor in the religious development of our young people. The new president, Dr. Schmauk, welcomes the presence of the General Secretary, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, and suggested that the delegates should take advantage of this opportunity to inform themselves on any questions concerning the organization of Luther Leagues in the churches. Copies of the current number of the REVIEW and the Topics were distributed, and subscriptions taken.

In the speeches before the Council very prominent reference to the League was made by Rev. Dr. Spaeth of the Mount Airy Seminary. While recognizing the educational efforts of the Luther League as of exceeding importance and most salutary results, he made a special plea for utilizing every League as a recruiting station and training school for lay workers, deaconesses and the general sphere of inner mission. And let not the enthusiasm end in mere essays and speech making, but let every motherhouse and every inner mission project in the land be able to point to the reinforcement of its ranks by the young people of our Luther Leagues.

The General Synod at its recent convention, June 3-11, 1903, in Baltimore, Md., recognized the Luther League of America by appointing among its standing committees an official visitor to the National convention of the Luther League of America. This action is in line with the practice of the General Synod since the organization of the National Luther League of America, and in accordance with the resolution adopted at the thirty-seventh biennial convention of this body "to continue the interest in the young people's movement in our bounds and to keep in touch with young people's societies in all branches of the Church of Jesus Christ."

The Committee on the Convention of Lutheran young people to the thirty-eighth

biennial convention of the General Synod noted the organization of the Luther League of America, the publication of Luther League Topics for local societies, the making of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW the official organ of the Luther League of America, and the establishment of a young people's reading course, with special emphasis on Lutheran literature. This convention appointed an official visitor, as also did the thirty-ninth convention of the General Synod, in the person of Dr. Hamma. The fortieth convention appointed an official visitor, and in line with this action and precedent, the forty-first convention of the General Synod has appointed an official visitor for 1904. C. F.

New York State Convention

(*Continued from page* 6.)

William C. Stoever, Esq., president of the Luther League of America, addressed the delegates. His remarks were practical, and were entitled in the order of service "Et Cetera." In part, he said:

We often hear the injunction "Let all things be done decently and in order," and the statement "Order is heaven's first law." The business affairs of churches are sometimes transacted loosely. Recently a gentleman, who had a great deal of money from several clients to invest, said he could not get one of them to invest in church securities because the business of churches is so frequently neglected. This should appeal to us because we are the future church managers, and by the careful and methodical management of League business we prepare ourselves for the proper management of the business of our churches when that duty devolves upon us. Don't allow State and National League officers to ask, and ask again, for statistical reports, the payment of dues and the like. Meet the obligations promptly.

A pastor criticised the League because, he said, it tries often to spread itself over too much ground. You may have seen a painter try to cover the side of a house with insufficient paint, and in a few months you have seen the wood showing through. A League's work should be concentrated. First its energy should be put into the congregation of which it is a part; after that it may reach out. It ought to study the Topics to develop its interest and activity in the Church. Each member ought to receive the REVIEW, both for his own sake and to help carry about the country the general secretary. If we do our duty we cannot fail. Be thou faithful unto death. God does not charge against us all our failures, but He does not forgive our forgetfulness. Your new president enters upon the work with trembling heart, because the responsibilities are great. He will fail if you do not do your part. Support him, earnestly and faithfully.

Rev. E. J. Keuling of Perth Amboy, N. J., who was a visitor throughout the convention, presented, unofficially, the greeting of the State League of New Jersey, and spoke of the practical value of conventions. He also spoke of the Junior work, urging its importance.

Another visitor, Mr. Lewis A. Anderson of Madison, Wis., brought the greeting of his League, which he said is composed largely of students of the University of Wisconsin. He described the student's circumstances and surroundings as regards religion, and said the League owes him the duty of placing within his reach, in the university library, the League and other Lutheran religious literature.

The reports of committees were followed by a practical address from General Secretary Kuhns. He strongly urged familiarity with the books of the Reading Course as a groundwork for the study of the Topics, and spoke forcibly of the need of earnest, faithful work to keep the League movement abreast of the time. He gave a glowing account of the progress it is making in the West.

A "question box" was conducted by Rev. Oscar Krauch of Albany, and the convention was concluded with devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. J. B. Remensnyder, D.D., LL.D., pastor of St. James' Church.

The tenth convention of the Luther League of New York has passed into history, but those present will remember it as the most inspiring convention ever held by the State League.

The City League is to be congratulated upon the splendid manner in which it provided for the comfort of delegates and visitors. No possible want of the delegates was overlooked, and as they journeyed home they bore with them grateful hearts and pleasant memories.

Porto Rico Church

(*Continued from page* 5.)

day of dedication when the attendance numbered 180, was the leader of the Catholic League, who had persecuted one of our ministers last year because he had said that the Virgin Carmen in their churches could not answer prayer. He seemed now all ears, and fixed his eyes upon the minister as he prayed that the truth might enter and enlighten the darkened souls. The whole day was peaceful; something unusual in this part of the world. Three converted Porto Rican priests assisted and made addresses during the feast of dedication. Rev. Richards writes, "Hitherto our work has been greatly hindered and delayed by lack of a suitable place for worship, and now that we have a church, the prospects are bright." The impression left by the dedication has been a very good one, and we now can begin to reap the harvest of our past labors. The congregation will shortly be organized.

Calendar Items of Foreign Missions

By Professor Wm. Wackernagel, D.D.

[Dr. Wackernagel has been kind enough to prepare the comments on all the Foreign Mission items of our Calendar since the beginning. He is a recognized specialist in this sphere of the Church's activity, and his brief paragraphs in each issue of the Review have been full of most interesting and helpful information. Owing to the unusually large amount of Convention matters in this number, the Calendar willingly yields a page of its space.—Lit. Sec'y.]

OCTOBER 1, 1705.—Bartholomew Ziegenoalg, the pioneer of Protestant Missions in India, was born in Saxony in 1683. After a thorough classical education in the college at Goerlitz, he, advised by Dr. A. H. Francke, at Halle, placed himself under the famous scholar, Joachim Lange, rector of Frederick College at Berlin, from where he went to Halle, and then returned to Berlin in 1705. It was just at this time the Dr. Luetken, a German theologian, but the court chaplain of the pious King Frederick IV of Denmark, was looking for men whom he might send as missionaries to the Danish colonies in India and West Africa. Failing to find suitable men in Denmark, he sought them in Germany, and on the recommendation of his friends in Berlin, Ziegenbalg was chosen for the work, together with Henry Plütschau, a native of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The two young Germans hastened to Copenhagen, and after receiving ordination at the hands of Bishop Bornemann, sailed for India in November, 1705, reaching their destination, Tranquebar, on the Coromandel Coast of Southeast India, in July, 1706. Ziegenbalg died at Tranquebar on February 23, 1719. (See Calendar article in last month's Review.) His friend Plütschau returned to Europe in 1712, and received from King Frederick, who also was Duke of Holstein, a pastorate in this duchy. He died in 1747. He was not a brilliant but a faithful man (I Cor. 4: 2).

OCTOBER 4, 1893.—Rev. E. Hohl, the efficient missionary who was lent to us for a long while by our cherished neighbors in Teluguland, is working again in his own field as a member of the Schleswig-Holstein or "Breklum" Missionary Society, to which he belongs since its organization 26 years ago. The generous hearted Breklum brethren have several stations and schools in North Teluguland, and also in Jeypore, where Oorija is spoken. Just at this time they are entering the naval State of Kalahaudy, a promising field.

OCTOBER 8, 1886.—Kaiser Wilhelmsland is the German part of the huge Melanesian island of New Guinea, inhabited by the savage Papua race, to which some of the Philippine tribes belong. Rev. John Flierl, the pioneer of Lutheran Foreign Missions in New Guinea, occupied Simbang in 1886. Since then four other stations were established by him, and manned by his friends from the mission college at Neuen Dettelsau, in Franconia, Bavaria. In 1887 the Rhenish Foreign Missions Society, which is doing so great a work in the Dutch East Indies, joined hands with the Bavarian brethren, and occupied another strip of the coast. Both societies at first sustained severe loss of lives, and not until now the precious seed, sown with so many tears, is beginning to grow and to promise a glorious harvest.

OCTOBER 15, 1867.—The Indian Home Mission to the Santals, or "Scandinavian Santal Mission," supported by friends in Great Britain, India, Scandinavia and the United States, was organized by the Dane, Boerresen (died September 23, 1901), and the Norwegian, Skrefsrud, who originally had been connected with the Gossner Society, working among the Kol tribes, living in the hills west of Santal-Land, in Southeast Bengal. The Santals are, like the Kols, aborigines, and not overwilling to become Hindooized. Their religion is worship of the heavenly luminaries and evil spirits (Bouga). The Scandinavian missionaries are very much in earnest, and are held in high esteem by other missionaries in Santalistan.

OCTOBER 25, 1716.—(See September 15.) J. E. Gruendler, born in Thuringia in 1677, having studied at Leipzig and Wittenberg, taught in Francke's high school at Halle. He was sent to India 1709. He was Ziegenbalg's best fellow worker and truest friend, also his successor as senior missionary. He was deeply interested in school work and was much praised and aided as an educator by the British Governor of Madras. He died in 1720 and was buried by the side of Ziegenbalg in Jerusalem Church, Tranquebar.

NOVEMBER 1, 1845.—The aboriginal hill people in the Bengal province of Chota Nagpur, about 1,500,000, are called Kols. This name embraces the Munda, Santal, Gond, Karia and Kurukh tribes. Their native religion is worship of the sun-god Singbonga, and of demons of darkness (bouga). The Gossner missionaries, Schatz, Batsch and Brandt met Kol coolies in Calcutta, 1844, and went to Ranchee, the chief town in the Kol hills. The first fruits of their labors, four Munda Kols, were baptized June 9, 1850. The first church was consecrated 1855 in the presence of 400 Kol Christians. The marvelous work of these zealous Gossner men was often obstructed by the Jesuits and the Anglicans. At present the 18 chief stations are surrounded by 1800 Christian villages, with a population of 85,000 Kol Lutherans. There were 25,000 catechumens at the beginning of this year. The work is spreading all over the back hills at the people's urgent call. Two large leper asylums are connected with the Gossner Mission.

NOVEMBER 5, 1869.—In the Rajahmundry field to-day there are 6 ordained missionaries, 3 missionaries' wives, 5 zenana sisters, 3 ordained native pastors, 8 catechists, 13 evangelists, 216 schoolmasters, 13 schoolmistresses, 1 Bible colporteur, 228 congregations with 9283 members and 2342 catechumens, 277 villages as preaching points, 212 schools with 1810 Christian pupils and 2662 non-Christians, 9 Church buildings, 9 bungalows, 178 prayer houses and 142 teachers' houses. In spite of the severe trials through which this mission has just passed, the fact that it now has 9283 Christians in its membership as over against 6159 two years ago, is certainly amazing and most encouraging. Nevertheless, let these other facts, too, be seriously pondered, as presented by the General Council's Board at the Norristown convention on October 9, 1903:

For a population of 2,120,724 we have only five ordained missionaries in the field; one missionary for every 424,000 people. For 228 congregations, we have six district missionaries and native pastors; one minister for every 38 congregations. In the Rajahmundry and Bhimawaram districts there are one missionary and two native pastors reported for 5723 Christians, and as one of these native pastors has since been

transferred to another field, there is but one pastor for every 2861 Christians, to say nothing of the heathen around them. The number of 9283 baptized members snows an unexpected increase. The figures have been thoroughly tested bv our director at certain places and found to be correct. It will be noticed also that there are 2342 inquirers, who, with faithfulness on the part of our missionaries, will all be gathered in. In 277 villages there are Christians and more or less earnest inquirers. The 4472 boys and girls in the schools of the mission constitute a most hopeful feature of the work. "An intelligent Hindu said to me," writes Dr. Harpster, "'You are getting the children, and that means that our religion must give place to yours.' There is no surer evidence of the decay of Hinduism," he continues, "than the willingness of the people to send their children to Christian schools, knowing that the result cannot be otherwise than that they will be subverted from the Hindu faith. Believe me that we are fully alive to the importance of fostering our mission schools in every way possible." A decided gain has been made in cultivating the benevolence of the native Christians. The Rs. 637-13-0, reported as given in cash, was almost entirely contributed between January and July, 1903, and is only partial. St. Paul's Church, Rajahmundry, has been renovated, and although the expense was not great, it was borne entirely by collections from the congregation. This is, of course, only a feeble beginning of what may be expected of our mission if properly and thoroughly reorganized. "I had applications from various congregations for help in building and repairing prayer houses in the Bhimawaram district," writes Dr. Harpster, "amounting to nearly Rs. 600. I cut it down to Rs. 163, and they accepted the cut. Except St. Paul's Church, here in Rajahmundry," he continues, "the churches reported are cheap affairs, generally covered with thatch. Bhimawaram and Mahadevapatnam churches are not finished, and it don't look as if they ever would be. The 178 prayer houses are generally thatched houses, but usually the best house in the village, and well adapted to the needs of the congregations. The 178 prayer houses represent a considerable amount of money, with the land on which they stand. The teachers' houses are generally under the same roof with the prayer house." The general condition of things in the mission is not discouraging. With harmony among the missionaries, and the subjection of the entire corps of native teachers to a stricter regard for discipline than has hitherto prevailed—this, with reinforcements of godly and judicious laborers from home sent as rapidly as possible—will give us a position we are assured, "in which we need put no limit to our achievement as a mission in the Godavery District." "I can truly say," writes the director, "that the outlook for this field is 'as bright as the promises of God;' but the realization of these promises is bound up with an adequate force of foreign missionaries, to man the different departments of mission work."

NOVEMBER 11, 1860.—Father Schneller, a genuine pietist, was living in Jerusalem as a missionary when in 1860 the massacre of Syrian Christians by Druzes and Mohammedans in Damascus and the Lebanon occurred. He went to the devastated country and returned with a number of orphan boys, whom he received in his house outside of the Holy City. Friends in Germany and Switzerland helped him to enlarge his dwelling, which since then has grown into an imposing plant, and is an important factor in the evangelization of Palestine. This "Syrian Orphanage" educates over 300 native boys in its several schools, normal, grammar, secondary; primary, for the blind, and in its work shops. A printing office publishes books and papers in German, English, Arabic and Hebrew. An agricultural colony at Bir Salem in Philistia belongs to the Orphanage. An Arabic parochial school has lately been opened in the city, with 150 children.

NOVEMBER 12, 1880.—There are 80,000 Lutherans in Australia. The first Lutheran Church was organized by German settlers at Klemzig, near Adelaide, South Australia, in 1838. Hermannsburg missionaries went to New Zealand and Australia in 1876. They started work among the Papua in Middle Australia, by founding a missionary colony in the MacDonnell Mountains. The Synod of Australia helped to support the mission until 1891, when both retired. Since then this Australian "Hermannsburg" is in charge of the Immanuel Synod of South Australia, and missionaries from Bavaria.

NOVEMBER 15, 1711.—John Balthasar Kohlhoff was born in Pomerania, on the Baltic Sea, in 1711. He was sent by the Foreign Mission Board at Halle to Tranquebar in 1737. He worked among the Tamils for 53 years, and died at Tranquebar 1790. His son, John Caspar, was ordained to the ministry by "Patriarch" C. F. Schwartz (who had educated him) at his father's golden jubilee, 1787.

NOVEMBER 16, 1873.—Missionary Ochs joined the Danish Foreign Missions Society, which since 1861 cares for "Bethany."

NOVEMBER 19, 1739.—By all means let us emphasize the fact that the Halle Lutheran missionary, John Kiernander, came from the land of the Tamil, S. India, to Calcutta, in 1758, as the FIRST Protestant missionary in Bengal, 35 years earlier than the British Baptist, William Carey, who had to disguise himself as an indigo planter and had to live in the Danish colony of Serampur, near Calcutta, while Kiernander was never interfered with, and could do telling work until 1799, when he died. The first fruit of his labor in Calcutta was a Brahmin, but he devoted himself principally to the Eurasians. Protestant mission work in India did *not* begin with the Baptist Carey (1793), but with the Lutheran Ziegenbalg (1706). It is hard even for Christians to give up a prejudice against impregnable facts, but it must be done, else we are not truthful.

NOVEMBER 24, 1895.—Dr. Hugo Hahn, Rhenish missionary in Southwest Africa, was born at Riga on the Baltic, October 18, 1818. He began his work among the Herero in 1844, founded New Barmen and two other stations which were destroyed (1853); went with J. Rath to the Ovambo (1856), told the Finnish Foreign Mission Society to occupy this field, which they did (1870); founded the seminary "Augustineum" at Otjimbingue. He was a wise and energetic worker.

NOVEMBER 27, 1803.—Dr. Kalkar's death took place about three years ago.

Success

Whatever of success I have attained is due to my unfailing custom of reading my Bible and of praying every morning before I leave my room. No difficulties nor stress of business keep me from the preparing myself for the day.—BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

Luther League Topics

First Week in Advent. November 29.

The Messianic Kingdom

(Isa. 2: 2-5. John 18: 36, 37)

Biblical Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller

Questions to be answered in brief papers: What Old Testament passages can be quoted foretelling the kingdom? What words of our Lord asserting His kingship? What are the characteristics of the Messianic kingdom?

Lessons for our own lives: 1. *The King has come.* Israel still waits for Him, and denies that He has visited His people. Men of the world have no eyes for Him or for the things of His kingdom, and neither recognize nor do Him homage. So it was when first He came. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not!". But if He has come, it is of the first importance that we should welcome and confess and obey Him. And the whole message of the New Testament is, that He has come! It took keen eyes for the shepherds to recognize in the Babe the King of Salvation. Instructed eyes were those of Simeon and Anna, that saw in the weak, helpless infant the Salvation of God. But we have all that they had, and all the history of the kingdom in its wonderful progress ever since, besides! For us the part of loyal subjects, heralding His presence to others, living "under Him in His kingdom, and serving Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness."

2. *The kingdom is not of this world.* If it were, with the divine power of the King it would long since have overthrown every other kingdom. But it is a kingdom of the *truth.* Its victories are won, not by force of arms, but by prevalence of the Divine Word. And since men may willfully blind themselves and oppose the truth, and since the King will have only voluntary service, and since the trophies of the kingdom are not captive bodies, but immortal spirits, cleansed by the truth, and joyfully obedient to the truth, there is no pomp of war, nor triumph of force. The kingdom grows, but not until the King comes again will His foes be utterly overthrown! As at the first, the kingdom must be seen, and entered by faith. As then, eyes made clear by Divine illumination for the vision of the unseen, must behold, and hearts made ready by the Divine Spirit, alone can receive the King. The Advent prayer is not that the King may come, but that the kingdom may come unto us also! The Advent preparation is renewed repentance and renewed faith. The Advent duty is renewed activity, as heralds of the King who is here! The Advent comfort is to realize His presence, His grace, His salvation!

Second Week in Advent. Dec. 6.

Christ the Lord

(Isa. vii: 14. Luke 1: 32-35)

Biblical Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller

Questions to be answered in brief papers: What is the connection between the prophecy of Isaiah and the passage in Luke? What is the teaching of the Scriptures concerning the God-man? What is meant by the 'State of humiliation?"

Lessons for our own lives: 1. *We rejoice that our Saviour is Emmanuel.* "God with us." None less than God could meet our need. In common with all humanity in every time, and clime, and condition, we crave, with inexpressible longing, for the touch of the Divine. That is the meaning of all sacrifices, penitences, pilgrimages—of all religions, false and true. Men want God, they seek after Him, if haply they might find Him; they invent, when they do not find revealed, ways in which to grope for Him. The great sore, sick multitude of human souls long, even ignorantly, for the "balm in Gilead," and can find no balm beside that can satisfy them. Nothing less than God can meet humanity's need. And while men hunt for God, He condescends and comes to them. "Emmanuel" means that men need not "ascend into heaven (that is, to bring Christ down from above), nor descend into the deep (that is, to bring Christ up again from the dead). God is with us. "The Word is nigh Thee."

And far more fully than men had dreamed in their fancies of drawing nigh to God, by offerings or exercises of their own, has He supplied their want, in coming to them in His Son. "Emmanuel" means something else than God among men, it means God *in* man. God with us, is God united with human life, God incarnate, the "Word made flesh," "dwelling among us," indeed, but the God-man in the midst of other men. So that this precious, unique Name belongs to no other than to our Lord, whose advent we celebrate. In Him, is nearness to God, for He, the Man, is One with God! In Him is ideal humanity. In Him is complete human fellowship with all mankind, tried, tempted, weary, lonely, weeping, rejoicing! And in Him is Divine fullness, Divine power, Divine

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlines and reviews), in 32-page pamphlet, covering three months, can be supplied at rates given on page 31 by LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, Box 876, New York, N. Y.

forgiveness, Divine holiness. All for us, for in Him God is with us, and He came that He might bring us into oneness with God. The Advent message is too grand, too glorious, too blessed and joyful and complete for us to be able to receive its full import. May the Holy Spirit give us new revelation of the rich content of the Name, Emmanuel.

Third Sunday in Advent. Dec. 13.

Home Missions: Means

(Luke vi: 38. Mark iv: 21-25. I Cor. xvi: 1-3)

The question might be asked, How much would our Church accomplish for home missions were the means available? A department store cannot be run on a stock of ribbons and a keg of nails. Our ideas must be larger and our revenues, too, if we are to realize the larger results for which we hope and pray. The question to be answered is one that will not down, and Luther Leaguers may ask, How can the Church do better work for missions? The Luther League has become a component part of the Church; it has no work to do except that which pertains to Church. One of the most urgent needs of the Church is aggressive mission work within the bounds and immediate vicinity of the Synods with which the Churches to which the individual Leagues belong are affiliated. Mission work in the highest sense includes both the numerical increase of the membership and the development of the spiritual life of the congregation. The League cannot engage in the mission cause on its own account, nor should, or more correctly dare, it refuse to be interested in missionary effort. The spirit of missions is the spirit of the living and growing Church. Where this is lacking, congregations perish for want of the essential element of Christianity, but our young people's societies must observe the authority and prerogative of the Synodical organization. A defect in the means of doing mission work may be corrected by dividing the labor and increasing the contribution of the churches, and by the study of broader doctrinal questions and Church problems, such as educate congregational life into the mission spirit. This affords the members of the Church opportunity for intelligent discussion and an understanding of the conditions requisite to the progress of Christ's kingdom as well as the congregation's duty. A good purpose is served by bringing the work from the various Synods forward for review that the study of the subject may be pursued properly. A capital means to interest individuals and accumulate material is to give each one in the League some especial topic for either a following meeting or else to have an eye for a whole year in gathering material on this subject. The sources of information are plentiful; reports of the various mission boards, minutes of Synods or missionary societies, articles in Lutheran papers, journals and magazines, presentation of the subject in other religious papers, as well as news in the secular press. Collect the clippings of such matter and classify them, and let each one arrange his own private collection for use on his topic or else to lend or give to the League for its use in such a study. Pictures of men, institutions of learning, mission stations and mission churches may be added with profit. This is a bit of furnishing that each League can easily do for itself with encouraging result.

When we come to consider the means by which the Luther League is to carry on the work of salvation, that it is not the means that vary, but the subjects with which the means have to do, there is a vast difference in the way we are affected by the agencies brought to bear upon us. For example, Luther might have affirmed that he was saved by a flash of lightning, but in spite of his vivid experience he asserted only salvation by faith, so we mention first and foremost the means of the Word. Every believer will do well to use this earnestly and constantly. It must lead the unbaptized to the font and the baptized to the Lord's table. These are the Divine means.

While we mention these the highest means that we employ are the spiritual. They are not always effective, for many are untouched by that which is spiritual. In these spiritual means are included conversation, prayer, admonition and song, as well as forgiveness; in short, all that must be employed to bring men to the appreciation of the Word and Sacrament. The intellectual means arising in the realm of thought, and aiming to attract others to things spiritual and eternal belong to the vast field so comprehensively represented in the classics of Lutheranism and spread before the Luther Leaguers in their four invaluable reading courses.

The social means are not to be despised. It is not so much the social entertainment as it is the friendly sympathy and helpfulness that is needed. The eager Christian convert may be lost without the helpful hand and the sympathetic word. This kind consideration and helpfulness turn many a careless step in the direction of the cross. We must not omit to mention the material means as necessary in the work of salvation; they are innumerable. The person, the home, the Church, the paper, the Bible, copper, nickel, silver, gold, it is needless to say, play an important part in saving others. The Gospel, indeed, is free,

but it takes money to make it free. You and I must help to defray the expense. With money we can help where other means will not reach. Other means often have a very short radius of usefulness, but money will reach not only Jerusalem, but the uttermost parts of the earth. Let us all give liberally for the salvation of the world.

Let us remember that Christian liberality is a grace. Here is where, with many, the greatest fault lies; the ordinary method is to have no method at all in the practice of Christian giving. It is no way to treat the cause of God. We are to honor Him with our substance, not forgetting that all is His and using all for His glory, apply His gifts for the support of His Church and the spread of His Gospel.

The Lutheran Church in America has a bountiful heritage. A munificent endowment, a magnificent constituency, but it remains to be seen whether the boundless opportunity for spiritual expansion and conquest will be seized. A rich heritage with all its advantages brings grave responsibilities and inevitable peril. Some Lutheran history makes wholesome, if not palatable, reading. There is hardly a city or town where a Lutheran congregation cannot be gathered by an earnest and capable missionary. Golden gates opened to Lutheranism in New York in the eighteenth century; in Philadelphia at the close of that century Lutheranism stood second to none, but these opportunities were allowed to slip away with irreparable detriment to the Church. Let us, then, as stewards of the vineyard render unto God what belongs to Him, a portion of our Luther Leaguers for the ministry, and a portion of our substance for the Lord's treasury. Let us crowd our churches as souls hungering for the Word. Let us show by our lives that the doctrines we profess represent our inner conviction, and that the forms of our worship express the devotion of our hearts, and then, like a resistless wave of life, Lutheranism as a type of pure, conservative Christianity will spread its religious force over the country to break the prevalent materialism, rationalism and commercialism destroying the free institutions of our Republic.

Fourth Week in Advent. Dec. 20.

Luther, the Singer

(Ps. xxxiii: 1-5. Col. iii: 16, 17)

Historical Topic Reviewed by the Rev. Gomer C. Rees

The difference between the born musician and others must be found outside of the labor of acquisition. It *is* found to be in the very nature of the individual. This fact must be duly weighed when we consider the many-sided and versatile nature of Luther. Though blunt, rugged, fearless and strong, when necessity demanded, yet he could be as fine-fibred and tender as a child. And if we run the gamut of his character from its utmost ruggedness to its utmost tenderness, we will find that at no point is he indifferent to the power and charm of music. This leads us to conclude that Luther is to be numbered among those *born* with a great talent for music. A man not so attuned by nature to respond to the influence of music, and to know and use that influence for himself and others, would not have spoken of its value so earnestly and urgently nor accomplished by its means as much as did Luther, the musician.

The first development of his innate talent for music undoubtedly occurred in his early school days. Then he learned to sing psalms and Christian hymns, which seemed to have deeply impressed him, and are reflected in later life in adaptations for the true worship of the Church of the Reformation. An impetus and encouragement to the nurturing of his musical abilities was very probably given by the mine bailiff, Reinicke of Mansfield, a friend of the Luther family, who "specially patronized public religious services and vocal musical performances to the honor of the mother of God and of St. George."

In Magdeburg, at the age of 14 years, we find Luther making a very practical use of his musical powers by singing at the doors of the benevolently inclined, in order that by their gifts he might be able to pay in part his expenses at school.

Luther went to Eisenach the next year, and here again he sang before the homes of the wealthy. On one of these occasions Providence directed him to the door of Madame Ursula Cotta, who was so attracted and impressed by his singing that she was led to take him into her house and give him a home for the remainder of his stay at Eisenach. His voice at this time seems to have been of a sweet soprano character, and to have been used with true musical feeling and effect.

During this period Luther's voice changed from that of boyhood to that of manhood. His soprano became a high, clear tenor, not particularly strong, but very penetrating in its character. In musical parlance it would be called a lyric tenor. The clear, far-reaching ring of his voice is also mentioned in the description of Luther when he was at Leipzig, carrying on the disputations with Eck. The same characteristic of his voice was noted when Luther spoke before Charles V, at Worms. His voice could be heard in every part of the hall. That the range of his voice upward was rather extended is evidenced by

the fact that in later life, at his home gatherings, he, at times, would sing the alto parts, which, as we take it, he sang just in the pitch in which they were written. While such parts are considered low when they are sung by female voices, yet for a male voice the music would run very high—*i. e.*, when sung in the same pitch in which the female voice would sing it.

It was during his student days that Luther accidentally injured himself with his sword. During the period of convalescence he, without a teacher, learned to play on the lute. Luther's skill in playing the lute must have been decidedly above the ordinary, as is attested by reports from his university life, and later by the fact that on his memorable journey to Worms he played the lute so well as to attract the attention of passers-by. At the inns where he stopped he delighted to recreate himself with music. He also learned at some time or other to play the flute. His attachment to music is clearly demonstrated when we recall him as he invited his friends to an evening of pleasure, in which the playing of musical instruments and singing formed a principal part.

In the monastery Luther had abundant opportunity to pursue the study of music as a science as well as an art. Here, it would seem, he learned the more intricate forms of counterpart and the laws of harmony, which knowledge stood him in such good stead in his later work of purifying the worship of the Church. To what extent Luther put into practice his knowledge of counterpoint in the composition of motets, is a mooted question, but that he essayed to do this appears from his comment on one of Leufle's motets: "Such a motet I would not be able to make, though I should tear myself to pieces."

The practical demonstration of music, as used in the Church, was constantly before the monk in the services of the seven canonical hours, as well as in the singing of the mass and in the multitude of feast days then observed. In this way alone Luther, with his musical aptitude, could scarcely help but become thoroughly conversant with a great portion of the Church's music. This is especially true of liturgical and choir music, as at that time congregational singing was almost unknown. Luther's subsequent career outside of monastic life also brought him in touch with the music as found in the different churches in Germany, and as well in Italy during his memorable trip to Rome. As illustrating this fact we mention the picture of Luther taken at Florence by the famous painter, Giorgione. This picture was taken as Luther played on a small organ. This not only illustrates the point, but seemingly reveals to us an added musical accomplishment of Luther—*i. e.*, the ability to play the organ.

Luther's great love for music was destined to play a most important part in his work as Reformer. All his knowledge and practice of the art previously was a sort of preparation for this the greatest use he made of it, for the purging of the forms of worship of their erroneous teachings necessitated the adaptation of music to the new form of words. He, however, did not break abruptly with the past, as is seen in his desire to retain the music as set to the Latin text, especially for choirs and the boys in the school, provided, of course, that such text was free from doctrinal error.

In the musical setting of his German mass Luther had the assistance of two musicians of eminence, Conrad Rupf and John Walther. Luther himself selected the Gregorian tones, to which the Gospel and Epistle lessons were to be sung. He also set several of the Gospel and Epistle lessons to these respective tones, and as well set the music for the words of consecration and composed the music of the German "Sanctus." In this work he sang the music or played it over on his flute and Walther noted it down.

It was one of Luther's greatest delights to gather about him his family and friends and sing his favorite compositions, both secular and sacred. Walther says of him: "It is to my certain knowledge that that holy man of God, Luther, prophet and apostle to the German nation, took great delight in music, both in choral and in figural compositions, with whom I have passed many a delightful hour in singing; and oftentimes have seen the dear man wax so happy and merry in heart over the singing as that it was well nigh impossible to weary or content him therewithal. And his discourse concerning music was most noble."

His most influential and far-reaching musical work, however, was through the medium of the chorales. These melodies were taught in the schools, and carried throughout Germany by wandering minstrels and scholars, and thus spread with almost marvelous rapidity. Luther himself was a composer of such melodies. We know that he also adapted the songs of the common people to his purpose, and sent them forth weighted with the message of salvation.

The invaluable aid of the chorale in spreading the truth of the Gospel through the medium of hymns was clearly recognized by Luther. He says: "The music first makes the text a living thing." Without music the hymns of Luther would never have accomplished the same wonderful results. But

with their proper musical setting they were placed upon the lips and therefore in the hearts of multitudes.

Next to theology Luther placed music. It also occupies a prominent position in his instructions concerning education. He says: "Music is the fairest gift of God." With him it was not only a pleasure, but was also a power to expel evil thoughts and desires—a power against Satan. At the same time he saw in the vocal organs a miracle of God. To the very last he thoroughly enjoyed music.

In his "Preface to All Good Hymn Books" Luther inscribed an ode, to "Lady Music," of which we here give a small portion:

"Of all the joys that are on earth,
Is none more dear nor higher worth.
* * * * * *
A singer apt to touch the heart,
Mistress of all my dearest art.
To God she sings by night and day,
Unwearied, praising Him alway;
Him I, too, laud in every song,
To whom all thanks and praise belong."

Christmas. Dec. 27.

Jesus the Man

(Matt. i: 18-20)

Biblical Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller

Questions to be answered in brief papers: What evidences can be given from Scripture of Christ's true humanity? Why is it important for us to be assured that He was "true man?" Why did Jesus become man, suffering poverty, humiliation and death? (See last paragraph of topic.)

Lessons for our own lives: 1. "*True man, born of the Virgin Mary," is my Lord.* This men have denied. The heresies of the earliest centuries rested on the two extreme views concerning the Person of Christ. Some, indeed, as now, denied His true Godhead. But others denied His true manhood. That He seemed to others about Him to be a man, they explained, as a part of His purpose to reach and influence them. But His humanity was, according to these errorists, only a mask, seeming and nothing more. But the Scripture testimony is all otherwise, and He was true and no deceiver. God forbid that any should rob us of our human Saviour. We need one who was in all points tempted as we are. We need one who sorrowed at the grave of His friend. We need one to whom we can come with the feeling of His fellowship. How could one who was not man atone for humanity? How could He, not being true man, take our place, and pay our debt? Take away the manhood of Jesus Christ and the gulf still yawns between the infinite, holy God and the sinful world deep in its insuperable abasement. We could no more draw near to Christ then than to the Father without Christ. And how much less heaven and God Himself would mean to us were there not a Man, to-day, at the right hand of the Father!

2. *In Christ we see humanity ennobled.* If we looked at the world without Christ we would despair of man. We would doubt whether there were the capacity in manhood for the entrance of the Divine. But human nature, however fallen and ruined by sin, is not incapable of becoming the dwelling place of God. We know it, by the fact of the Incarnation. God has come and dwelt in a man, a true, complete man. And, more, in Christ God and man, so far from being in irreconcilable contradiction, have become one. God not only dwells in man, but God is man, and man is God, in that inexplicable but real unity of the two natures in the one Person, Jesus Christ. There is hope then for humanity. Not in such wise as the Son of God took upon Him true manhood, but in such wise as He has made possible for us, we, too, may have God dwelling within us. We may become partakers of the Divine nature. In every human being, however lost and vile, there is the possibility of becoming a son of God. The abyss between the Divine and the human has been bridged. The Divine, reaching down, can take you and me and any son of man, and drive out the destroying power of sin, and lift us up to sit at the banquet table of our God! Hallelujah!

Daily Bible Readings

Nov. 15. XXIII Trinity—II Timothy 1: 8-11.
Monday—Hebrews 12: 1-12.
Tuesday—Matthew 9: 27-35.
Wednesday—Mark 7: 31-37.
Thursday—Leviticus 26: 1-12.
Friday—Micah 4: 1-13.
Saturday—Revelation 22: 1-21.

Nov. 22. XXIV Trinity—Isaiah 35: 1-10.
Monday—Psalm 68: 1-16.
Tuesday—Jeremiah 31: 1-9.
Wednesday—Luke 24: 36-48.
Thursday—I Timothy 6: 1-16.
Friday—Luke 12: 13-21.
Saturday—John 8: 12-32.

Nov. 29. I Advent—Isaiah 2: 2-5; John 18: 36, 37.
Monday—II Samuel 7: 12-17.
Tuesday—Isaiah 16: 1-5.
Wednesday—Jeremiah 23: 5-8.
Thursday—Matthew 1: 20-25.
Friday—John 1: 1-18.
Saturday—Hebrews 1: 1-14.

Dec. 6. II Advent—Isaiah 7: 14; Luke 1: 32-35.
Monday—Proverbs 19: 16-29.
Tuesday—Matthew 7: 1-12.
Wednesday—James 2: 1-26.
Thursday—Luke 8: 14-21.
Friday—Acts 11: 19-29.
Saturday—II Corinthians 8: 1-24.

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE

LUTHER LEAGUE OF AMERICA

IN THE INTERESTS OF

The Lutheran Church and her Young People.

Edited by E. F. Eilert,

WITH

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AS SPECIAL ASSOCIATES,

And the co-operation of the Executive Committee of the Luther League of America.

Subscription, 50 Cents a Year.
Club Terms on Application.

Remittances may be made in stamps, Post Office or Express Money Order, Draft, or Registered Letter. Address all communications and send all remittances to

LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW,
P. O. Box 876, New York.

Entered at the N. Y. Post Office as Second-class Matter.
Publication Office, 131 Liberty St., New York.

Editorial

The need of the hour is a positive Protestantism, clear and positive convictions as to our faith. This is particularly appropriate at this season of the Reformation anniversary and approaching Luther Day. Do not be afraid or ashamed to take a stand with Luther and the Reformers. The future of Protestantism belongs to the Church that stands firm for the great principles of the Reformation, the Church that is unflinching and uncompromising in its Protestant faith.

The great principles for which the Reformers battled are not dead. They are as vital and important to-day as they ever were, and they need to be emphasized as much at this time as ever. Just because of the indifference to the great doctrines of Protestantism, our time, especially, needs a renewed emphasis on the meaning and history of the great Reformation.

Stewardship is of some consequence in church economy. In developing our young people in Christian life, the grace of giving should not be omitted. The scriptural idea is that of a direct, free will offering, without ceremony, without tickling the palate, or the ear, or feasting the eye as an inducement to patronize for the Church's sake. Correct ideas are of first moment here. Charity cannot be done by proxy, nor can real Christian giving be promoted by ice cream, oysters, concerts, lectures, strawberry festivals, fairs, guessing or voting contests. The helpful giving does not lose sight of the Scripture injunction, "Upon the first day of the week let every one lay by him in store as the Lord hath prospered him." This cannot mean making merchandise of religion. The best Christian sentiment does not approve of these schemes of raising money for churches. Their scripturalness is rightly called in question. We cannot sanction the suggestion of such methods of raising money. It is unnecessary to say we do not indorse them where practiced.

Of the holding of conventions there seems to be no end, and every large city in the Union has the opportunity of entertaining the representatives of some association or associations, all of which are supposed to be for the betterment of mankind. The question is frequently asked, Why so many conventions? Will not half the number be sufficient to accomplish the purposes for which these gatherings are held? Often, yea, in almost every case, an affirmative answer might be given. But it seems as if some people cannot be satisfied unless they are on the move, and there are some objects which it seems cannot be supported except by frequent assembling of those interested in the advance-

ment of the cause for which the association was formed. We are living in a peculiar age, and with peculiar people. All tastes must be considered and gratified as far as possible, and many of the associations are compelled to hold frequent gatherings so as to keep their people in line. This seems a singular argument, but it is often advanced. Much good is done by the stay-at-homes, and much more might be accomplished by following their example.

Certainly there are advantages, or the conventions would not be held. It is well for kindred minds to meet at times, as well as those who are not alike. The one encourages the other, and sometimes the opposition helps the movement. The discussions tend to bind the delegates together in their efforts for the cause, and those who attend the meetings often are stirred to such enthusiasm that they are able on returning to their homes to inspire others to earnest work. Information and knowledge can be more easily imparted by face to face and heart to heart talks than by the wire or the pen and ink. Some men require these meetings to awaken renewed energy in the work lest they fall by the way and yield to discouragement and obstacles. The man who sits down alone to reason out a proposition, to plan an enterprise, or to consider the line of work to follow, is more easily discouraged and disappointed than two or more uniting in the same line of action.

Our young people at this season of the year are gathering in district and State organizations. A proper selection of subjects relating to the interests of the Church and its work will tend greatly to the benefit of the Church and its work, and on this account the meetings of our young people should be encouraged. When our Church as a Church and its young people are united in the consideration of its agencies and engaged in the work necessary to advance these, then indeed we will be a great people, doing much good for our fellowman and for the advancement of Christ's cause in these United States and in the world at large.

The training of the laymen of our churches, often through the instrumentality of the Luther League, so that they may be to our Church what the laymen are to other denominations, is a matter Protestantism cannot too highly recommend to the consideration of thoughtful people.

Publishers' Column

A second edition of the last number of the Luther League Topics was printed, and exhausted in short order. This indicates the increasing and encouraging growth of the use of the Topics by our young people. It also admonishes those who want to begin the use of the Topics with the new Church year, November 29, to order at once. The new number, No. 37 (the first of the tenth year), will be ready for distribution on November 15. Orders will be filled in the order in which they are received as long as the edition lasts.

We have issued a very neat and attractive Christmas circular calling attention of our friends to the Luther League Badge as an appropriate Christmas gift for a relative, a friend or for Sunday school scholars. This circular will be mailed on application. Only a reminder is needed to satisfy our friends that the Badge makes a very pretty and appropriate gift.

At the New York and Pennsylvania State conventions a special offer was made to all District Leagues for raising a club of 100 subscribers among the Leagues of each district for the Review. This offer should be an incentive to the officers to aid us in our endeavors to increase our subscription list. Write for particulars.

Another edition of the Luther League Hymnal is exhausted, and a new one is now in course of printing. The increasing demand speaks well for this book.

Those little booklets, "The Loyal Helpers," "John Westoff, Lutheran," and "The Window of Rubies," were much appreciated by those who saw them at the State convention. You will like them; 10 cents each, the three for 25 cents. Address all orders for supplies to Luther League Review, P. O. Box 876, New York City.

The Juniors — November

[Care of Rev. C. Elvin Haupt, D.D., Lancaster, Pa.]

Answer to Enigma of October number "Luther League of America."

Answer to Acrostic: JeweL, UnitE, NebraskA, InninG, OrmolU, ResiduE.—Junior League.

Ideas

Why should we not work in the Church, with the Church and for the Church as well as outside of it?

A good Junior Leaguer makes the better Sunday school worker.

How would a public festival, given by the Juniors, for their parents and friends, serve to awaken interest and increase the usefulness of the League?

Work for the local hospital or the orphanages of the Church should be encouraged among the Juniors.

Thanksgiving.—It is stated that 2080 millions of bushels of corn were raised in the United States in 1903. Estimating the number of citizens at 80 millions how many bushels would that give to each man, woman and child? Is not this a cause of thanksgiving to the "Bounteous God?"

Lutherans, Protestants, Christians and, indeed, all the world have good cause to rejoice and give thanks that God raised that great man, Martin Luther, and that he so nobly did his work.

Now many young Lutherans can tell what is the "Book of Concord," and how many confessions of Faith are found in it? How thankful we should be that our fathers have established the faith so firmly!

Luther was born November 10, 1483. His name is imperishable. His work is going on.

Emblems.—Sometimes our little workers may care to have some suitable emblem as the sign, or symbol, of their work. Here are a few that are suggestive:

The Bee for Industry.
The Rose for Fragrance.
The Cross for Endurance.
The Star for Guidance.
The Open Bible for Wisdom.
The Circle for Completeness.
The Lamp for Knowledge.
The Lamb for Self-sacrifice.
The Sheaf for Ingathering.
The Lily for Purity.
The Arch for Support.
The Gate Opened for the True Way.
The Clock for Punctuality.
The Ship for Life's Journey.
The Harp for Music.

It is a good plan to commit a verse or quotation from the Bible, or a hymn or other beautiful selection each day we live. It will enrich us greatly.

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Have you ever planted a tree?

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Our Churches and Institutions

New York

— Monday evening, October 19, the thirty-fifth anniversary of the ordination of Rev. G. W. Wenner, D.D., was celebrated in Christ Lutheran Church, 404 East Nineteenth street, of which he is pastor. Dr. Wenner delivered an historical address; Rev. G. F. Krotel, D.D., LL.D., spoke on "Our Predecessors;" Rev. J. B. Remensnyder, D.D., LL.D., president of the New York and New Jersey Synod, of which Dr. Wenner is a member, spoke on "Our Successors;" Rev. G. C. Berkemeier, D.D., on "The Church and the Work of Inner Missions;" Rev. J. A. W. Haas, D.D., "The Church and the Children," and Rev. H. A. Stimson of the Congregational Church and a classmate of Dr. Wenner, made the closing address. Dr. Wenner organized Christ Church in October, 1869, and has continued as its pastor to the present. The parish is very well organized and is in a most prosperous condition.

— Sunday evening, October 11, Rev. I. C. Hoffman, president of the Philadelphia English Conference of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, installed Rev. F. B. Clausen as pastor of the Church of the Epiphany. The large attendance which taxed the church to its utmost capacity, showed the interest and the sympathies of the people in and with Epiphany. On this occasion the Ladies' Aid Society surprised the pastor wth a handsome new silk robe. The following Thursday evening a reception was tendered Pastor Clausen by the societies of the church. An interesting, well rendered programme, together with addresses by neighboring pastors, and the refreshments served made the reception a marked success. The steady increase of attendance at both services and in the Sunday school indicates a successful future for Epiphany under the continued blessing and guidance of God.

— A Society for Home Mission Work has been organized in the New York Conference of the General Council. The organization, with 35 charter members, was effected September 21 last at St. Mark's Church.

— The Bible Teachers' Training School, of which Dr. Wilbert W. White is president, began its fourth year Wednesday, October 14. Its courses of instruction cover two years of graded work, and are divided into six departments, as follows: (1) Department of the English Bible; (2) Religious Activity and Sociology; (3) Teacher Training; (4) Church History, Comparative Religions and Missions; (5) Ethics and Apologetics; (6) Original Biblical Languages. The school is non-sectarian, and has on its list of instructors the names of many well-known educators and lecturers on religious subjects. The office of the school is at 83 East Fifty-fifth street.

Brooklyn

— On Sunday, October 11, and Monday, October 12, St. Peter's congregation celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ordination of its pastor, Rev. J. J. Heischman. Rev. Dr. A. Richter of Hoboken, N. J., the president of the New York Ministerium, preached on Sunday morning, and Revs. Dr. J. W. Loch and Dr. H. W. Hoffman delivered addresses in the evening. A reception was tendered Dr. Heischman on Monday evening by the Ladies' Aid Society.

Philadelphia

— The Church of the Holy Communion, which has been homeless for two years, has purchased the stately edifice at the corner of Chestnut and Van Pelt streets, formerly the property of a Reformed Episcopal congregation, and will worship in it for the first time on November 15. The price paid for the property is said to be $200,000.

— The fall convention of the Lutheran Sunday School Teachers' Association of Philadelphia was held on Thursday, October 29, in All Saints' Church, Rev. Charles E. Hay, D.D., pastor. Rev. S. E. Bateman, Mrs. H. W. Elson and Mrs. J. P. Krechting were the principal speakers.

— The Portable chapel, which has served so valuable a purpose for the Temple Mission, is now being removed eight squares, to the corner of Walton avenue and Fifty-second street, where it will be used in building up another congregation. The Temple people used it for one year and three months, and are now building a $30,000 church.

Chicago

— The Chicago Theological Seminary has begun what promises to be a banner year in its remarkable career. The large number of new students has necessitated the using of a nearby vacant house. The resident students represent no less than 18 colleges and 21 synods of our Church. In counting up the unifying influences and forces in this country the Chicago Seminary is to be reckoned. One new member has been added to the Board of Instructors—viz., Rev. Dr. W. L. Hunton, who takes up the work with the consent of his congregation, he having an assistant in the person of one of the theological students, who will relieve him of a portion of his pastoral work.

— Four new points have been canvassed by the mission committees of the General Synod and the Chicago Synod in this city, all of which give promise of developing into flourishing English Lutheran Missions.

Baltimore

— A farewell meeting was held in Baltimore on October 14 to four missionaries to the General Synod field in India. Their names are Miss Mary E. Lowe, Miss Jeanne L. Rollier, Miss Elsie Reed Mitchel, M.D., and Miss Katherine Fahs, who returns after a few months' furlough.

— Trinity Lutheran Church celebrated its tenth anniversary on October 4. The membership numbers 600; that of the Sunday school a little more. Rev. E. E. Ide is the pastor.

— At the First English Lutheran Church, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Ezra K. Bell, began the fifth year of his pastorate on September 20. Nearly 400 new members have been added to the church during the past four years, an increase of 50 per cent. The congregation is in fine condition financially.

— The Lutheran Church of Peace, Rev. Charles E. Raymond, D.D., pastor, formerly German, now conducts all its services in the English language. The change was made October 1.

Washington

— Rev. A. E. Gringel of Xenia, Ohio, has been unanimously elected pastor of Zion Church, formerly served by Rev. Homrighaus.

— Rev. W. H. Gotwald, D.D., has been appointed Lecturer on Apologetics in the Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa.

Pittsburgh

— The Brushton Avenue Lutheran Church is being remodeled and renovated throughout. The Rev. S. N. Carpenter is the pastor.

— The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Rev. H. S. Gilbert, pastor, at Mt. Oliver, a suburb of Pittsburgh, was dedicated on Sunday, September 20. Rev. D. H. Geissinger, D.D., president of the Pittsburgh Synod, preached the dedicatory sermon, taking as his text Psalm 96: 6 and 8. Services were held all through the week, the following ministers officiating: Rev. J. C. Kunzman, D.D.; Rev. D. Luther Roth, D.D.; Rev. Geo. J. Gongaware, Rev. H. W. Roth, D.D.; Rev. J. K. Melhorn, and on Sunday, the 27th, the Rev. H. S. Gilbert was installed, Rev. F. W. Kohler conducting the service. Holy Communion was administered. The congregation has about 80 members. At the completion of the beautiful church home there was a debt of $9,000, toward the payment of which $2,200 was raised at the dedication. One very commendable feature can be shown by a notice printed on the service leaflet, which reads as follows: "This church has been established without asking for help from the Synod or from any Church Extension Society, and begins its career as a self-sustaining congregation."

Columbus

— The First Church, of which Rev. Charles K. Hunton, Statistical Secretary of the Luther League of America, is pastor, has begun making an addition to its church to provide for the needs of its growing graded Sunday School.

Dayton

— Rev. J. G. Neiffer, D.D., president of the Ohio District Synod, has resigned the pastorate of St. John's Church in order to accept a call to a recently organized mission in Toledo.

Minneapolis

— A church has been purchased for the English work in this city. The price paid is $1,300. Rev. Dr. J. Telleen is pastor of the congregation.

MISCELLANEOUS

— The twenty-ninth convention of the General Council convened at Norristown, Pa., on the 8th of October. From the beginning to the close the action of its members was in harmony with the keynote sounded in the president's address, "Unity and Harmony in Action as Well as in the Faith." The tone of the assemblage was decidedly that of uplift, confidence and aggressiveness. The election of Rev. Dr. T. E. Schmauk of Lebanon to the presidency seemed to infuse a spirit of thoroughness and decisiveness which effectively expedited the business of the convention. The reports of committees were all alike gratifying, especially so that of the Foreign Mission Committee, which gave promise of peace and prosperity in this important field. Two new Synods were received—the New York and New England Synod, having a communicant membership of 11,208, and value of church property of $1,785,470, and the Synod of Nova Scotia, with 2,500 communicants and property valued at $75,000. At the evening meeting of Friday, Rev. E. H. Trafford was set apart as a missionary to India. Monday evening, which was also the final evening session, was devoted to the general theme of "The Problem of Christian Education." Of interest to Leaguers was that part of Dr. Spaeth's address, in which he said: "In conclusion, how about our Luther Leagues? What is their sphere of action in the matter of Christian Benevolence? Though we recognize their attempt in educational lines in indoctrinating the young people of our churches, we desire to direct their attention to this most important field of activity. Let them stir up young men and young women within the ranks to serve the Church as lay workers, as deacons and deaconesses." The Council in all its actions took a tone of consideration for the other federal bodies, and in the work of missions and Sunday school supplies will co-operate to the end of uniformity and practicability. The officers elected were: Pres., Rev. T. E. Schmauk, D.D., Lebanon, Pa.; rec. secs., English, Rev. S. E. Ochsenford, D.D., Allentown, Pa.; German, Rev. Gottlieb C. Berkemeier, D.D., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Swedish, Rev. L. Holmes, D.D., L.H.D., Portland, Conn.; cor. secs., English, Rev. Stephen A. Repass, D.D., Allentown, Pa.; German, Rev. Christian G. Fischer, Elizabeth, N. J.; Swedish, Rev. A. W. Stark, DeKalb, Ill.; treas., William H. Staake, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.

— On October 4 the fifth anniversary of organization of Holy Trinity Church, La Crosse, Wis., was celebrated with appropriate exercises. The church has a membership of 130 and a Sunday School of 245 scholars. In December, 1901, the handsome edifice on South Twelfth street, now occupied by the congregation, was consecrated, and after December 1 there will be only $2,000 debt against it. The pastor, Rev. A. C. Carty, has received a call from the Church of the Transfiguration in Philadelphia, which he will probably accept.

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Luther League

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SEND IN THE NEWS.—Under this heading we aim to give the fullest reports possible of all District and Local Leagues. Secretaries and other officers are earnestly solicited to send in reports and items of news promptly.

Luther League of America

Organized at Pittsburgh, Pa., October 30 and 31, 1895, by delegates representing State, District and individual organizations from twenty different States in the Union and the District of Columbia.

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Notice to Secretaries

— Every State and District Statistical Secretary is requested to forward to the undersigned at once his name and full address (street and number), with the name of the State or District of which he is an officer. Where there is no Statistical Secretary the Corresponding Secretary will please act in his stead. New statistical blanks have been prepared. I desire the full and prompt co-operation of all District and State Secretaries. Let us come to the Buffalo convention with complete reports. Chas. K. Hunton, Statistical Secretary, 440 South Eighteenth street, Columbus, Ohio.

NEW YORK

New York City District

— Luther Day will be celebrated by the New York City League by an appropriate service on the evening of November 10 in the Church of the Advent, Broadway and Ninety-third street, Rev. G. F. Krotel, D.D., LL.D., pastor.

— The next meeting of the New York City District League will be held on Wednesday evening, November 18, at St. James' Church, Madison avenue and Seventy-third street. Interesting reports from the delegates to the State Convention, and from the committees which planned and executed the entertainment of the convention, are expected.

— At a recent meeting of the Luther League of the Church of the Atonement, Rev. F. H. Knubel, pastor, a committee of six was appointed to devise "Ways and Means" for starting a Junior Luther League. This committee decided to hold a social meeting on the evening of October 1, inviting all the young people of the congregation between the ages of 14 and 16 years to be present. As a result, there were about 35 present at this social gathering. A number of these had already joined the Senior League, but about 20 enrolled for membership in the Junior League. Mr. William Messinger of the Supervising Committee from the Senior League acted as chairman of the meeting. A few words of advice to the Juniors

were spoken by Mr. W. H. Rose and Rev. F. H. Knubel. A Nominating Committee, a committee to prepare constitution and by-laws and a Lookout Committee to bring in new members were appointed.

— The annual meeting of the Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Yonkers, Rev. J. W. Smith, pastor, was held on September 22. The following officers were elected: Pres., Rev. J. W. Smith; vice-pres., Miss Louise Weltzien; sec., Miss L. Tiesmeyer; treas., Frank Heidenis; correspondent for the REVIEW, John F. Heer. Misses A. Krone and L. Tiesmeyer were elected delegates, and Rev. J. W. Smith and John F. Heer alternates to the convention of the State League. A series of social meetings has been arranged to take place monthly at the homes of the members. The League during the past year has purchased an organ for the church. New members are received at nearly every meeting of the League.

Rhinebeck District

— The Luther League of St. John's Church, Hudson, at its meeting on September 29, elected the following officers: Pres., John M. Shook; vice-pres., Edward Dennis; rec. sec., Miss Ora Cudney; cor. sec., Miss Elsie Potts; treas., Miss Annie Potts. The pastor, Rev. Paul W. Koller, and Leander Weaver were elected delegates, and Mrs. Albert Loomis and John Shook alternates, to represent the League at the State League convention. The League has gained 12 members in the past year.

— At the last meeting of the Rhinebeck District League it was decided that each Society during the coming year should hold a "District Night," at which the president of the District, or some person delegated by the president, officiate and an offering be made for the benefit of the District League. In accordance with this action the members of the Rondout Luther League held their meeting at the church on Tuesday evening, when they had as their guests the Luther Leagues of Rhinebeck and Saugerties. The members of these Leagues, accompanied by their pastors, Revs. Wells and Kramer, were present with splendid delegations. The opening service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. Bacher, and the music was furnished by the choir of the local church. The speakers of the evening were Rev. P. W. Koller of Hudson and Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, General Secretary of the Luther League of America. The attendance was good, and after the close of the meeting, which was very successful, an informal reception was held, when ice cream and cake were served.

NEW JERSEY

— The Luther League of Holy Trinity English Lutheran Church, Elizabeth, observed its fifth anniversary on Sunday evening, October 4. The church was appropriately decorated for the occasion. An address, chiefly of an historical nature, was delivered by the retiring president, Mr. George Piehler. The pastor, the Rev. F. C. Krapf, addressed the Leaguers and those assembled with them on the theme, "Endure Hardship as a Good Soldier of Christ." The present membership is about 75. On October 13 the League held a very enjoyable anniversary sociable in one of the halls of the city, when an interesting programme was rendered. The officers elected for the coming year are: Pres., Clarence Kline; vice-pres., Pastor F. C. Krapf; rec. sec., Miss Mayme Burkaman; fin. sec., Miss Millie Kaimer; treas., Charles C. Murphy; organist, Miss Mary Martin.

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— The president of the Luther League of New Jersey, the Rev. Fred'k C. Krapf of Elizabeth, is attempting to visit all the Leagues connected wth the State organization. On September 24 such a visit was made to the League of Grace Church, Newark, the Rev. M. S. Waters, pastor, at its initial fall meeting. That to the Young People's Society of Ansgar Church, Passaic, the Rev. A. Aaron, pastor, was in the nature of a rally, when addresses were made by the Rev. Dr. L. H. Beck, president of Upsala College, New Orange, N. J.; the Rev. C. G. Fischer of Elizabeth, and by Pastor Aaron. The visit to the League of the Church of the Atonement, Asbury Park, the Rev. George A. Genzmer, pastor, occurred Monday evening, October 19. The meeting, held at the home of Mr. Louis van Gilluwe, one of the active workers in the local League, and also a member of the Finance Committee of the Luther League of America, was chiefly of a social nature. On Monday evening, October 26, President Krapf visited the Society connected with the Church of the Redeemer, Greenville, the Rev. John E. Heindel, pastor.

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia District

— In St. Luke's Church, Rev. Chas. L. Fry, pastor, on Luther's birthday, November 10, all the resolutions and speeches of the State Convention will find an echo in the presence of the Philadelphia District League. A largely increased support of the League's official publications, the REVIEW and the Topics, is confidently looked for as the result. So may it be at the next meeting of every District in Pennsylvania.

Allentown District

— A committee consisting of members of the Allentown Conference of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania has prepared, at the request of the Luther League of the Allentown District, an explanation of the Church Book of the General Council. Only the first part of this explanation has been issued. It is proposed to follow up this part with other series of questions and answers on the whole Church Book, including hymns. Rev. G. A. Bruegel, of Philipsburg, N. J., is chairman of the committee. Mr. C. A. Dennig, a former president of the Allentown District Luther League, is now a student in the Chicago Theological Seminary and assistant to Rev. Dr. Hunton in the Church of the Holy Trinity.

Bangor District

— The nineteenth semi-annual convention of the Luther League of the Bangor District was held in Christ Lutheran Church, Stone Church, Rev. J. W. Lazarus, pastor, on Wednesday,

October 7. The following subjects were presented: "The True Teacher for the Infant School," Mrs. E. H. Steinmetz, Bangor; "A Sufficient and Efficient Corps of Teachers: How Secured, How Maintained," Rev. J. A. Klick, Pen Argyl; "Methods in Teaching of the Advanced Classes," Rev. J. W. Koch, Water Gap; "The Graded System and Our Sunday Schools." Rev. J. W. H. Heintz, East Stroudsburg; "To the Work! To the Work!" Rev. Geo. S. Kleckner, East Bangor; "Wanted—Luther Leaguers Who Mean It," Rev. E. A. Yehl, Bangor; "The Lutheran Opportunity in the United States. 1, The Past and Its Lesson. 2, The Present and Its Inspirations," Rev. B. F. Apple, Stroudsburg, Pa.

—The annual election of officers of Trinity Luther League, Bangor, was held on October 5, 1903. The following officers were elected: Pres., Miss Emma S. Mann; vice-pres., Miss Mabel Heaney; rec. sec., Miss Lizzie Mann; cor. sec., Miss Helen Berger; treas., Mrs. Oscar Wolfe; organist, Miss Mabel Stocker; asst. organist, Miss Mabel Flory; librarian, Miss Mabel Reagle; asst. librarian, Miss Myrta Buzzard.

Northeastern District

—The twenty-second semi-annual convention of the Northeastern District Luther League was held Tuesday, September 29, in Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Dorrance. The morning session was opened at 11 o'clock. Rev. J. F. Bates of Wilkes-Barre conducted the opening service. Rev. Bruch delivered the address of welcome, which was responded to by Mr. P. Walter Banker, president of the District League. After the organization of the convention the roll was called and 37 delegates responded. The first topic, "Why All Our Young People Should Be Connected With the League," was discussed in a paper by Mr. Wm. Dilg of Wilkes-Barre. the essayist stating that "the Lutheran Church to-day stands upon the same rock as it did at the time of the Reformation, and the young people who are loyal to their Church should join the Luther League, for there they learn pure doctrine. Our Leagues are doing work almost indispensable to the Church. It is a training school for Church workers and officers. We should therefore try to get all the young people of our Church to join the League." Rev. A. O. Gallenkamp of Scranton had charge of the afternoon session. The topic, deferred from the morning session, was presented by Mr. Kleeman of Wilkes-Barre. The subject was "Our Tools: The Bible, Reading Course, Topics, Hymnal and LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW." This paper affirmed that Christian workers must have good tools, just as a mechanic must have the proper tools for his work. First comes the Bible, which we must thoroughly read; next the Reading Course, which is very instructive as well as interesting; then the Topics. If only the members would attend the devotional service, where these Topic are used, they would soon learn their value. The Hymnal, with its sweet and inspiring music, and then last, but by no means least, the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, were indorsed. The REVIEW should be read so that we know what the Lutherans are doing in the United States. The next subject, "The League as a Spiritual Factor, as a Working Factor and as a Social Factor," was discussed by a member of Holy Trinity Church, Scranton, he stating that our motto shows what the spiritual factor is. Our devotional services are the same as those used in the Church. As a working factor the League is a benefit to the Church, not

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alone in a financial manner, but also in assisting the pastor. The social factor should be a subordinate and not the leading factor. Dr. Ramer advised all Leagues to use the Topics and explained how they should be used. A paper on the last topic, "Our Luther Leagues and Our Local Churches," was read by Mr. Henry Miller of Wilkes-Barre. He said that the Luther League is doing very good work for young people by getting them interested in religion and bringing them into the Church. The Committee on Resolutions in its report recommended aggressive prosecution of the extension work, authorizing the circulation of an official letter from the president to pastors of churches with no Leagues, asking for an opportunity to explain the League's object and plans. This recommendation was adopted. A paper was read, stating the progress of the new Muhlenberg College. A motion was adopted that the Northeastern District League appropriate $100 to furnish a bedroom in the Luther League Hall in connection with Muhlenberg College, each League in the District to pay $10. This room is to be known as the Northeastern District Room. If the plan is not carried to build this hall, then the money will be given for some other purpose. Rev. Ritter was authorized to receive money for the same. The evening session opened at 7.30 o'clock with the usual vesper service, Rev. Seneker in charge. The first address was delivered by Rev. Gallenkamp of Scranton; the second address, "Our Sunday School Book: Its Music," by Rev. Ramer. In a very able manner he showed why our Sunday schools should use the Lutheran S. S. Book. The third address was delivered by Rev. Ritter. The Emmanuel League, whose guests we were, was organized just two years ago, and it was upon this anniversary subject that Rev. Ritter spoke. The closing vesper service was conducted by Rev. Reschke. At this convention 10 societies were represented. Thirty-seven delegates, 8 pastors and 11 visitors were present. At the evening session the church was crowded to the doors.

Berks County District

— The annual convention of the Berks County Luther League was held in Zion Lutheran Church, Womelsdorf, October 7. Fred. A. Marx presided. The opening exercises were conducted by Rev. O. E. Pflueger, pastor of the church. C. D. Leinbach delivered the address of welcome and President Marx responded. At the morning session the following officers were elected: Pres., Fred. A. Marx of Trinity League, Kutztown; first vice-pres., J. Wilmer Fisher of Trinity League, Reading; sec. vice-pres., Rev. A. M. Weber of St. John's League, Boyertown; rec. sec., Miss Lillian Geiger of Hope League, Reading; cor. sec., Miss Mamie Spohn of Grace League, Reading; stat. sec., Henry H. Hernan of St. James' League, Reading, and treas., J. P. Body of St. Matthew's League, Reading. In regard to the matter of a Luther League Hall at Muhlenberg College, it was found that the sentiment of the convention was decidedly against it. Hope Lutheran Church of Reading was selected for the next quarterly conference, which will be held on the second Thursday in January. A contribution of $145 was raised for the State convention fund. The afternoon session began at 2 o'clock. After the devotional exercises, the topic, "Not as the World Giveth," was opened by George M. Jones of Trinity Church, Reading. The speaker emphasized the spirit of true Christian giving, which is to give without any thought of what we are getting in return. The world wants some return for what it gives. Real service is to first give self wholly to God and then the money will come. The Church's first need is consecrated men, for such men cannot help but give. Mr. Jones said: "If the Christian would learn to give in the right spirit there would be no need of holding festivals and suppers to raise money for the Church." He quoted from many passages of Scripture and from eminent writers to define the true spirit of giving, and concluded his argument with a plea for self-denial rather than self-indulgence. The topic was discussed in five minute addresses by A. P. Body, Rev. J. W. Early, C. F. Reed, Rev. R. B. Lynch and others. The singing of a hymn was followed by the reading of an essay on the life of Christian Frederick Schwartz by Mrs. Charles A. Homan, prepared by Miss Harriett C. Horne, who was unable to be present. "Young Lutherans and Sunday" was the subject to be discussed by John A. Garner of St. Matthew's Church, Reading. Mr. Garner was detained at home, and an interesting discussion was opened by A. P. Body, who decried the present day desecration of the Sabbath. Addresses upon every phase of the subject, presenting many and varied views, were made by George M. Jones, Rev. R. B. Lynch, Charles F. Reed, Rev. J. Franklin Snyder, Miss Lillie Geiger, Rev. J. W. Early, Miss Mamie Spohn and J. Wilmer Fisher. Henry H. Hernan, the statistical secretary, submitted his annual report, which showed a present total membership in the District of 1899, a gain of 215 over last year and an increase of 346 over 1901. There are at present 22 local and four junior Leagues identified with the District League. The District League is entitled to five delegates in the State convention, and it was resolved to elect two clerical and three lay representatives. The following were chosen: Rev. O. E. Pflueger, Rev. J. W. Early, Miss Smeltzer, Miss Mamie Spohn and F. A. Marx. The session closed with prayer and the benediction by Rev. J. W. Early. In the evening at 7.15 the vesper service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. O. E. Pflueger. The address of the evening was delivered by Rev. R. B. Lynch of Kutztown. His theme was "Our Common Inheritance and How to Preserve It." It was an eloquent and earnest defense of the Lutheran faith. Following the service an informal reception was tendered the visitors.

Catawissa District

— For a number of years the Luther League

Low-Rate Homeseekers' Excursion to Florida

For the benefit of homeseekers, the various railroads to Florida will sell on November 11 special excursion tickets from Washington to the following points at rates quoted:

Sarasota,	Fla.	$30.05
Braidentown,	"	29.70
Ellenton,	"	29.70
Palmetto,	"	29.70
Manatee,	"	29.70
Punta Gorda,	"	30.90
Arcadia,	"	30.15

These tickets will be good going on November 11 only, and to return within fifteen days, and will not be good to stop off in either direction.

In connection with these excursions, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell one-way tickets to Washington, at regular rates, from all stations on its lines east of Pittsburg and Erie, together with exchange orders on the railroads out of Washington for an excursion ticket from Washington to the above-mentioned points at rates quoted.

of St. John's Church, Northumberland, Rev. C. R. Botsford, pastor, has been supporting a student in the Lutheran College, Guntur, India. His name is Gurrala Enoch. He is now a graduate and was recently married. With his wife, who was a student of the Boarding School at Guntur, he is now working at Mangalagiri. The League will continue to support him.

Pittsburgh District

— A Junior Luther League of 46 charter members was organized in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Etna, Rev. J. M. Guss., A.M., pastor. The following are the officers: Pres., Harry Pope; vice-pres., Harry Pfisner; sec., Miss Lillian Shuker; cor. sec., Miss Emma Schreiber, and treas., Miss May Warner.

— Another Junior organization is the Mt. Zion Choristers of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Allegheny, Rev. T. S. Brown, pastor. It is composed entirely of boys, and its object is the study of the Church services and the Gregorian psalm tones. Their director, Dr. Fred. Weitzel, is to be congratulated on the progress they have made.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

— The Luther League of St. John's Church, Mr. Charles Zanner, president, and Rev. Geo. Brodthage, pastor, celebrated on Friday evening, October 16, its sixth anniversary. The pastor presided. Addresses were made by Rev. Messrs. Brodthage, J. L. Frantz, J. G. Butler, D.D., and C. H. Butler, and by Mr. Zanner, the president. Mr. George Ostermyer read the report of the secretary, Miss Bruner. The League has done splendid work in the past and best wishes for the future were expressed. At the conclusion of the programme a social hour followed, with music and refreshments.

OHIO

Springfield District

— The second semi-annual convention of the Springfield Luther League was held Friday afternoon and evening, October 30, at Calvary Church, Rev. F. G. Gotwald, pastor. Delegates were present from the Fourth and Fifth Churches, Wittenberg Y. M. C. A., Urbana, Xenia, St. Paris and other surrounding towns. The meetings were most helpful and were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended them. The afternoon programme consisted largely of short papers, telling of the advantages of the District Luther League, and how to make the meetings of the League more helpful. Among the speakers were the Rev. A. E. Gringle, W. W. Kenerly of Wittenberg, the Rev. Dr. H. C. Culler, president of Wittenberg Synod; Miss Emma Scholl of Urbana, and C. C. Roof of Wittenberg. A report from the recent State convention was also given by Miss Christina Mezger. In the evening the church was filled and two masterly addresses were given by the Rev. V. G. A. Tressler and the Rev. Dr. D. H. Bauslin, both of Wittenberg. The music at both sessions was unusually good and elicited considerable comment, Miss Philips singing a solo in the afternoon, and the church choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Ruth Mellott, furnishing the evening music. No business was transacted at the meetings, this being left entirely to the Executive Committee. The next convention will be held some time next spring.

ILLINOIS

Chicago District

— The Luther League of the Church of the Holy Trinity has secured a handsome new silk robe for the use of the pastor, Rev. Dr. W. L. Hunton. Their collections exceeding the amount required, the surplus was used in securing a new pulpit edition Church Book. The League is arranging a course of lectures, the first two of which will be by Rev. Dr. Weidner and Rev. C. O. Solberg.

MINNESOTA

Twin City District

— The Twin City District Luther League held its eleventh convention in St. Paul's Church, Minneapolis, Rev. Martin Norstad, pastor, on Monday, October 26, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. A complete report of the proceedings may be expected in the next issue of the REVIEW.

— A Luther League was formed in the newly organized St. Mark's congregation on the North Side, Minneapolis, Thursday evening, October 22. This congregation is only a little more than a year old, and is at present in charge of Rev. A. C. Peterson. A constitution, previously prepared by a committee appointed for that purpose, was first adopted and officers elected as follows: Mrs. Claus Johnson, vice-pres.; Miss Laura Ockwig, sec.; Miss Laura E. Malchow, treas. The constitution makes provision for the following committees: Devotional, Membership, Social and Literary. The pastor, as president of the League, will also be chairman of the Devotional Committee; the vice-president will be chairman of the Membership Committee; the secretary, of the Social Committee, and the treasurer of the Literary Committee. A motion to apply for membership in the Twin City District League was adopted, and the following representatives were elected: Miss Sophie Rognas, Miss Laura E. Malchow and Miss Ragna Domas as principals; Claus Johnson, Miss Laura Ockwig and Carl Voelker as alternates. Mr. Werner, acting chairman of the Twin City League Visiting Committee, was present, and gave an inspiring address on the nature of young people's work in the church.

KENTUCKY

— A Luther League has been organized in St. Mark's Church, Newport, Rev. F. C. Longaker, pastor. It starts with 18 members, who have exhibited much interest in the work the League is to undertake. They contemplate using some of the League literature.

OREGON

The Columbia District Luther League

— The first convention of the Columbia District Luther League was held in Zion's Church, The Dalles, Rev. William Brenner, pastor, on Thursday and Friday, September 10 and 11. The first session was held on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. The opening service was conducted by the pastor, who also delivered the address of welcome. Among other things, he said:

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"I esteem it a privilege and honor to bid you, on this occasion, a hearty and most sincere welcome—welcome to our city, our church and our homes. This is the first convention of its kind ever held in this city, and whatever imperfections may mark our arrangements for the occasion should be attributed to our inexperience in the work. Many of the difficulties which will confront us at this our first convention will be solved with the very efficient help of our General Secretary, and we are peculiarly fortunate in having with us at this time the man, who by reason of his attainments, enthusiasm, zeal and genuine Christian manliness is well fitted to hold one of the most important positions in the Luther League of America. To him and to you all I say once more welcome—welcome!" President Derr responded, thanking the League for the hearty welcome. He said: "We have assembled here in our first convention to work, to discuss, consider and deliberate upon the great scope of work before us as a District organization. We must prepare ourselves for the mission which has fallen to us in the extension of Lutheranism in the great Northwest. We feel highly honored in having with us Rev. Luther M. Kuhns of the National League, and though he may be disappointed in finding us a smaller body than he expected, we feel confident that he will find in us sufficient evidence of active faith, and with his counsel to direct us we propose to learn in this convention something concerning the work of a growing District League. Let us drink in the inspiration of this convention and go to our respective Leagues prepared to do more active and consecrated work in the cause of our Master, Lord and Saviour." Rev. Wm. F. Holl then delivered the principal address of the evening on "The Luther League; What It Is." The first business session of the convention was held on Friday morning. President Derr led the devotional services, after which he presented his report. He presented the following thoughts: "Since the organization of the Columbia District Luther League, April 29, 1903, at St. James' Church, Portland, Ore., we have viewed the field of ripe opportunities with the hope of being able to establish ourselves permanently as the representative force of all the Lutheran Churches of Oregon and Washington embodying the Augsburg Confession and the Word of God. Our pastors and local Leaguers have seen the imperative need of organized union, if we as Lutherans intend to keep pace with other denominations. We have laid the cornerstone in the construction of this body, which is distinctively Lutheran, and we look forward to the time when we shall assemble not only with members of the English speaking congregations, but vying with them German and Scandinavian delegates working for the extension of the Church of the Reformation." The usual routine business followed. A paper on "The Leaguer's Duty to His League" was presented by Mr. Geo. Weigel of The Dalles. He said in part: "Each member should feel a personal responsibility for the success of the League. Be regular in attendance at League meetings, thus showing loyalty to our Saviour by attending those places where we may with Him pass an hour in prayer and song. Earnest, devout prayer should be a characteristic of the Leaguer. Some one has said: 'A praying Church is a thriving Church,' and the same applies to our League. If we wish our League to prosper we must earnestly petition God's blessing on its labors." Mr. Emmett Bainter of Portland followed with a paper on the "Leaguer's Duty to Our Literature." His remarks were as follows: "In order to be intelligent Luther Leaguers we need to devote time to the study of our Church. We have literature prepared by men who have devoted their whole lives to the study of the Church, and thus equipped we have every advantage which goes to make us young Lutherans of understanding and knowledge in the history and doctrines of our Church. The LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, the official organ of our national body, is one of our best helpers, and should be found in every Leaguer's home. The comments upon the 'Topics' are a great help. It publishes a summary of the General Secretary's work throughout the country. The editorials are stimulating and authoritative opinions upon our general work. In the Topics we have a systematically arranged course of study, bringing out such important themes as Home and Foreign Missions and the Doctrines and History of our Church." Miss Louise Kraemer of The Dalles then presented a paper on "The Leaguer's Duty to His Church," saying: "The Church is an ordination of God, Jesus Christ Himself being the Head and Cornerstone. It is the habitation of God, the pillar and ground of the truth. At her altars the rich and poor, the humble and proud, the statesman and philosopher have reverently bowed. Christ also loved the Church, and for her sake suffered death on the cross. If Christ did this for her, is it not our duty also to do what we in our humble way can do for her? One of our important duties is regularity in attendance on the means of grace. There is no more important service than the Holy Communion. It is a privilege that ought never to be neglected. The forgiveness of our sins is nowhere more certainly promised than in the Lord's Supper. It is our duty also to do all we can to support the Church. To give as God has prospered us, always remembering that it is more blessed to give than to receive. To be loyal to our Church and her ordinances, to place her interests before those of any other is the supreme duty of every member of the Luther League." The afternoon was occupied by business. The following are the officers for the ensuing year: Pres., Wm. S. T. Derr, Vancouver, Wash.; vice-pres., Mrs. J. A. Leas, Portland, Ore.; sec., Anna Stubling, The Dalles, Ore.; treas., Emil R. Gelinsky, Portland, Ore. On Friday evening occurred the rally. The opening service was conducted by Mr. W. Eck of Portland. Excellent music was rendered by the local choir and visiting delegates. The event to which all had been looking forward was the address by Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, General Secretary of the Luther League of America. He spoke on the "Opportunity of Our Lutheran Inheritance," and was given the closest attention of every delegate and visitor. The address was an appeal to our young people to grasp the opportunities which had been made possible by the heroic struggles and sacrifices of our Lutheran Fathers. The spirit of this address, together with the counsel of the General Secretary, was the most inspiring feature of the convention, and the assembly extended to Rev. Kuhns a vote of thanks for his coming to us at this the most critical period in the history of the Columbia District Luther League. A fraternal letter of greeting was received from William C. Stoever, Esq., of Philadelphia, president of the Luther League of America. At the close of the convention refreshments were served by the local League and a social hour followed.